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Company M and Adams in the
war with Spain





CAPT. HERBERT O. HICKS.

COMPANY M
AND
ADAMS
IN THE
WAR WITH SPAIN,

BY
HERBERT O. HICKS
AND
FRED A. SIMMONS.

Illustrated.

PRESS OF
THE ADAMS FREEMAN.
1899.

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by
H. O. Hicks and F. A. Simmons.

TO THE MEMBERS OF COMPANY M,
2ND MASS. INF., U. S. V.

*"In the universal memory of mankind,
Inscribed shall be the record, bold and sure,
Of deeds illustrious.*

Take up the white man's burden,
Send forth the best ye breed—
Go, bind your sons to exile
To serve your captives' need;

To wait, in heavy harness,
On fluttered folks and wild—
Your new caught sullen peoples,
Half devil and half child.

—*Kipling*.

This book is dedicated to the members of Company M, Second Massachusetts Infantry, United States Volunteers, dead and living men, particularly to the twelve good men and true, who at their country's call left home and friends and all held most dear to face not alone the bullets of their enemies, but the far more to be dreaded diseases incident to a tropical climate. That they did their duty well is a matter of history. In passing, it is but right that they should be the first in our memory. As men, they were the peers of their fellows. As soldiers, they were of the best.

To the living may this book bring that feeling of comradeship that as the years go by shall be more and more like a brother's love cemented by the trials and vicissitudes that came alike to all. Whether in the trenches, on the battlefield, in the bivouac, or on the march, through mud and rain, over almost impassible trails, wet, sore, tired, lame, yet with courage undaunted they carried their colors to victory.

TO OUR FRIENDS.

The claim is not made that this book is a model, but it has been the aim of the authors to tell in a plain, simple manner the doings of the Company from the time they left home until the muster out of the regiment Nov. 3d, 1898.

Whether we have succeeded or not we leave to your consideration.

Eds.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

CAPTAIN HERBERT O. HICKS.

LIEUTENANTS.

SERGEANTS.

CORPORALS.

PRIVATES.

COL. E. P. CLARK AND MAJ. R. A. WHIPPLE.

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COMPANY M, M. V. M.

Company M was mustered into the volunteer militia of Massachusetts, November 18th, 1887, when the state decided to raise the regiments in the service having only eight companies, to the standard of twelve companies. The young men of Adams were very anxious to have a company here, so to that end a petition was circulated and the signatures of the prominent men about town were obtained. The petition was forwarded to the Adjutant General of the State. William F. Davis, at that time editor of a newspaper here, worked very hard for the organization and had the satisfaction, in September, of knowing that his labor had borne fruit and that the town of Adams was to have a militia company. From that time hard work was put in, among the young men of the town, to get material for what proved to be one of the best companies in the whole state militia.

November 18th, 1887, was the date made by Colonel B. F. Bridges, then in command of the 2nd regiment, to muster in the new company which was destined to be known far and

wide for their prowess with the rifle and afterwards in the Cuban campaign of the Spanish American war.

Colonel Bridges was accompanied by Captain Hayden, mustering officer, and Lieut. O. J. Brown, as medical officer.

Forty-four men were accepted and mustered into the service at this meeting, and directly after the muster an election for officers was held, presided over by Colonel Bridges. Reuben A. Whipple was elected captain, Ezra N. Jones, 1st Lieut. and Frank W. Roberts, 2nd Lieut.

The officers were ordered before the examining board in Boston and all passed and were commissioned.

Three small rooms were procured in Collins block for headquarters and the Town Hall was used for a drill room. Great interest was taken in the work by the men, and though the mistakes made were many and some of them ludicrous, they persevered.

January 16th, 1888, the Company was completed. Requisition for arms and equipments was made and a vigorous effort made to have the Company in good shape for camp which came early in June.

From the start, Company M was a prime favorite in camp. "The Wild East" composed of such men as Howatt, Sayles, Sanderson, McNulty, Orr, Richmond, Fairfield and others, with Hennessey as annunciator, served at once to put Company M in the van.

Directly after camp the first rifle team was formed and at once went into practice for the annual state shoot, with the result that with seventy-two teams competing they stood thirteenth.

In 1889 the rifle team under the same conditions stood seventh.

In 1890 the order was changed so that each regiment held its own competition at which the team of Company M took

first place and held it for seven consecutive years. In 1897 they were defeated by the team of I Company. In 1890 the team accepted a challenge from A Company, 6th regiment, of Wakefield, they claiming the championship of New England. The challenge was for a series of three matches, the first one to be shot at Wakefield, the second at Adams and the third on some neutral range.

The first shoot came off at Wakefield in the fall of 1890 and resulted in a tie score, at that time the highest score on record, 296 points, seven men, ten shots, or an average of 42 2-7 per man. The other two matches never materialized for various reasons.

The Company kept its headquarters in the north end of Collins block for about two years when they secured rooms in the south end of the same block so that they had considerable more room. They had a small drill hall, small equipment room, and commodious company rooms.

The Company here had a large honorary list and the rooms, especially in the evening, presented a very animated scene. A whist tournament between the actives and honoraries for a supper resulted in a victory for the actives.

The smallness of the drill room made it impossible to execute any company-movements correctly and for that reason the drill interest began to wane. About this time Captain Whipple was elected Major and Lieut. Jones was made Captain. He at once set about seeing what could be done for a new Armory, with the result that a large building was built on Park street for that and other purposes. Captain Jones, owing to poor health, thought best to resign in April, 1893, so that the new Armory for which he had worked so hard to obtain did not see him in command. Lieut. Hicks was elected Captain and the Company moved into their new quarters and dedicated them

October 8th, 1895. They were pronounced the finest of any single company in the state.

In the spring of 1897 Col. Clark conceived the idea of proving the efficiency of his regiment with the rifle.

An order was issued that on certain days, under the supervision of officers other than their own, companies should shoot. The order of shooting was thus, the first ten shots to count. Each company was allowed to hold shoots on five different days and so arrange that the whole company should shoot during that time. There was great interest shown with the exception of one company which did not go into the competition.

There had been two prizes offered. The company making the highest aggregate to take the punch bowl (silver) presented by Asst. Surgeon Herrick. The second, a silver cigar case by Col. Clark.

From the start M Company put out their best efforts to the end that at the end of the competition they had one hundred points to the good, K Company standing second.

The Company celebrated the victory with a banquet at which the punch bowl was christened.

This competition had the effect of placing every man in M Company second class or better, an order of things never before equaled by the command.

During the talk of war with Spain there was deep interest in the Company, and when on the 15th of February, 1898, the warship, Maine, was blown up in Havana harbor there was not a man but what was ready to start at a moment's notice.

In April, when war was declared, the men began quietly to get their business matters in shape to leave, as it was thought by all that the Second regiment would be the first one to get the order to move.

As soon as orders were received for the regiment to go into camp, an enlistment paper was placed on the table. No

COMPANY M.

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one was urged to place his name thereon and all of the married men were urged to remain at home with their families, and not a married man was accepted unless it could be shown that his family would be taken care of while he was away. The manufacturers were very kind and promised to care for the families during the war, a promise that was religiously kept.

ROSTER

COMPANY M, 2ND REGIMENT, INFANTRY, M. V. M.

Mustered into Service of State, at Adams,
November 18th, 1887.

CAPTAIN.

Reuben A. Whipple,	Adams
--------------------	-------

FIRST LIEUTENANT.

Ezra N. Jones,	Adams
----------------	-------

SECOND LIEUTENANT.

Frank W. Roberts,	Adams
-------------------	-------

FIRST SERGEANT.

William F. Davis,	Adams
-------------------	-------

SERGEANTS.

John A. O'Conner,	Adams
Edwin G. Ingraham,	"
Gerald Howatt, Jr.,	"
Herbert O. Hicks,	"

CORPORALS.

Henry A. Jones,	Adams
Arthur A. Hall,	"

COMPANY M.

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James A. Carroll,	Adams
Albert H. Bates,	"

MUSICIANS.

William Heeney,	Adams
George E. Whipple,	"

PRIVATEES.

John H. Allen,	Adams
John S. Adams, Jr.,	"
David Brown,	"
Charles N. Barnum,	"
William O'Brien,	"
William Baird,	"
Erastus Boorn,	"
Edward Cassidy,	"
James C. Cadigon,	"
Patrick Carey,	"
Frank A. Carroll,	"
John Edward Deyo,	"
Frank I. Embree,	Cheshire
James M. Fleming,	Adams
Willis A. Fairfield,	"
Patrick Hennessy,	"
George S. Hatch,	"
William S. Jenks,	"
Charles Lowell,	"
Clarence B. Loud,	"
Ernest J. Laferriere,	"
William B. McNulty,	"
Frank L. Morse,	"
Richard Neagle,	"
William B. Orr,	"
Calvin M. Potter,	"

Frank A. Richmond,	Adams
Benjamin G. Stillman,	"
George E. Simmons,	"
George F. Sayles,	"
William Staple,	"
Godfrey Sanderson, Jr.,	"
John W. Taylor,	"
Robert A. Thompson,	"
Henry Whitney,	"
Edwin B. Richmond,	"
Benjamin F. Phillips, Jr.,	"
James A. Osborne,	"
Edward A. Deyette,	"
Francis A. Alderman,	"
Germain Hoag,	"
Albert G. Whipple,	"
Chauncy D. Rifenburg,	"
Calvin P. Hall,	"



Geo. J. Crozier.
1st Lieut.



Ernest J. LaFrampe.
2nd Lieut.



COMPANY M.

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OFFICERS FROM 1887 TO 1899.

CAPTAINS.

Reuben A. Whipple,
Ezra N. Jones,
Herbert O. Hicks.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS.

Ezra N. Jones,
Herbert O. Hicks,
George E. Simmons,
George J. Crosier.

SECOND LIEUTENANTS.

Frank W. Roberts,
William F. Davis,
Gerald Howatt, Jr.,
Herbert O. Hicks,
George E. Simmons,
Ernest J. Laferreire.

ROSTER

COMPANY M, 2ND REGIMENT, MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY,
UNITED STATES VOLUNTEERS.

As Mustered into United States Service at South
Framingham, May 3, 1898.

CAPTAIN.

Herbert O. Hicks, Adams

FIRST LIEUTENANT.

George J. Crosier, Adams

SECOND LIEUTENANT.

Ernest J. Laferriere, Adams

FIRST SERGEANT.

William O'Brien, Adams

QUARTER MASTER SERGEANT.

William Hodecker, Adams

SERGEANTS.

Burdette H. Milliman, Adams

James A. Campbell, "

COMPANY M.

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Victor King,	Adams
Jim R. Smith,	"

CORPORALS.

William A. Sime,	Adams
Sydney H. Cliff,	"
George E. Whipple,	"
Charles H. Hathaway,	"
John B. Sturm,	"
Fred A. Simmons,	"

MUSICIANS.

Charles Stone,	Valley Falls, R. I.
William H. Duggan,	Adams

ARTIFICER.

George W. Alderman,	Adams
---------------------	-------

WAGONER.

Alfred A. Thiel,	Adams
------------------	-------

PRIVATES.

William Aspin, Jr.,	North Adams
Charles A. Austin,	" "
Jerry M. Barry,	Adams
Carroll F. Brown,	North Adams
Harry C. Brown,	" "
Hugh F. Brown,	" "
Keller H. Briggs,	" "
Richard W. Bruce,	Pontiac, R. I.
Frederick Brunell,	Adams
John L. Burt,	"
James C. Cadigon,	"
Arthur L. Carey,	North Adams
Edward H. Cassidy,	Adams

Jasper Coones,	Adams
William H. Crockwell,	"
Charles Daniels,	"
Charles E. Dunn,	"
William J. Dupreau,	"
Bryan Dwyer,	"
Charles C. Favreau,	"
Alexander Foote,	"
David C. Ferguson,	"
Alfred N. Gelinas,	North Adams
Walter B. Graham,	" "
Levi Gravel,	Adams
Joseph Gravel, Jr.,	"
Robert Groves,	"
George S. Hagar,	Dalton
Frank R. Harris,	Savoy
Samuel Hiser,	Adams
Abraham Kershaw,	"
Eugene E. Lee,	North Adams
William J. Maloney,	Boston
Franklin W. Manning,	Pittsfield
Harry L. Marshall,	North Adams
Mathew F. McGlynn,	Adams
Fred Mercier,	"
Edward J. Mooney,	Dalton
Alfred N. Page,	North Adams
Walla Paradise,	Adams
Lyle B. Parker,	Dalton
Harry A. Partridge,	Adams
Robert W. Prentiss,	North Adams
John T. Reardon,	Adams
Benjamin Riley,	"
Louis Rougeau,	North Adams

COMPANY M.

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Frederick J. Sisco,	Adams
David Sitcer,	"
James M. Smith,	"
Milton C. Snell,	"
John Sullivan,	"
John S. Thompson,	"
Thomas Tobin, Jr.,	"
Herbert P. Ward,	Pittsfield
John J. Walsh,	Adams
John Weir,	"
Augustus Wood,	North Adams
Amedee A. Vadnais,	" "

Corporal Whipple was detailed for duty in the ordinance department, at Tampa.

Corporal Simmons was appointed to the Regimental Hospital Corps, at Tampa.

THE CUBAN CAMPAIGN.

COMPANY M IN THE WAR OF 1898—EXPERIENCES WITH
THE FIFTH ARMY CORPS DURING THE
SIEGE OF SANTIAGO.

THE COMPANY PREPARING TO LEAVE ADAMS.

The order and arrangements for the Company to leave for camp were pushed to completion. Knapsacks packed, overcoats rolled all property, except what the men were ordered to carry, was boxed up and sent to the state arsenal. Nothing was left—but to put on the uniforms and equipments—when the Company was notified that the citizens of Adams, North Adams and other towns would tender them a public reception on the night of May 2nd.

No event in the history of the town ever brought such a concourse of people. The Armory building, a commodious one, was packed from bottom to top. Park street from one end to the other was one sea of faces.

A delegation from the Daughters of the American Revolution of North Adams presented to each member of the Company, through the captain, a small American flag made of silk and having a clasp to attach it to the blouse. Under the flag was a piece of white silk bearing their seal. The request was that for that evening the flag should be worn on the out-

side of the blouse, after that, on the inside. A few were lost in the campaign, but many of the men have theirs yet, soiled to be sure, but a souvenir that money does not buy. The Company have also a set of resolutions from the same organization.

At eight o'clock the Company formed in their equipment room and repaired to the Armory, where they found it almost impossible for them to force their way to the center of the room. After this had been accomplished and ranks opened, Mr. J. C. Chalmers informed the people that they could pass between the ranks and say their last words. To the boys it was perhaps the first time that some of them had realized what it all meant. After the crowd had paid their respects to the Company the members of George E. Sayles Post, G. A. R., tendered the boys a banquet, after which Mr. J. C. Chalmers told us of his experience in the Civil war and gave us good advice about caring for ourselves. He was followed by other members of the G. A. R., business men, lawyers and clergy. Capt. Hicks was called upon and responded briefly, thanking all for what they had done and would do. It was his opinion that the regiment would see service in Cuba, and if they did was sure a good report would be had from Company M.

COMPANY LEAVING HOME AND ADAMS ON THE MORNING
OF MAY 3D.

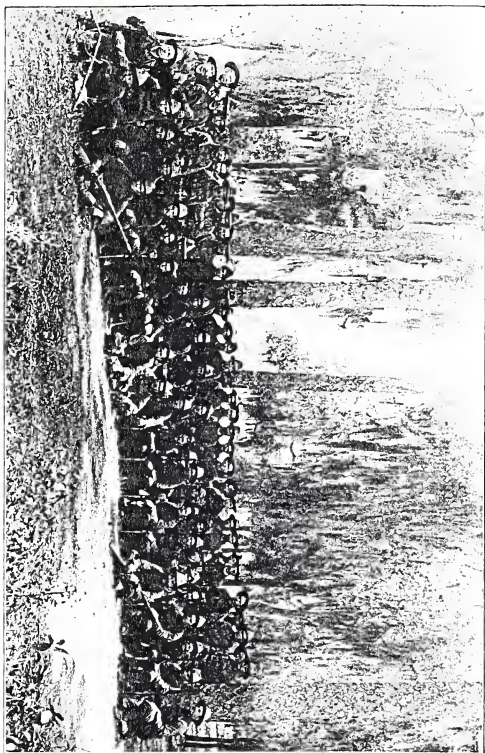
The morning of May 3d broke dark and rainy. After the good-byes had been said at home, the men assembled at the Armory and at 6.20 a. m. the bugle sounded the assembly. The Company made its formation and was ready to move at 6.25. Meantime the crowds had been assembling from Adams and North Adams. They came by trolley cars and teams and

many came on the train which was to take the Company away. A drizzling rain was falling when the Company left the Armory but as they reached the street, cannon began to boom, steam whistles screeched and the bells from churches and mills added their clang. All along the line of march was a dense throng for not a mill in town had started up that morning and would not until the Company was off. The procession was headed by a platoon of police, Lafayette band, George E. Sayles Post, G. A. R., Sons of Veterans and citizens. It was a grand ovation. Just as the Company reached the railroad yard, where two coaches were side tracked for their use, the sun broke through the clouds and a beautiful rainbow appeared in the East. This was hailed as a good omen. The men filed into the cars, laid off their equipments, and came out for the last few moments before they were to be separated from loved ones, some for a few days only, some for months, and some, alas, forever. As the train took on the coaches, containing the Company, and steamed slowly out of the yard and away there was a scene never to be forgotten. It was not only women and children who wept, but strong men whose eyes had not known for years what a tear was.

As the train pulled out, cheer after cheer rent the air and the men here, for the first time, showed plainly that they began to realize the situation.

At Maple Grove another large crowd was waiting for a parting look at the Company. At Cheshire, and in fact at every station from Adams to Framingham, crowds had gathered to catch a glimpse of the first Company to leave their Armory, for the front, from Massachusetts. At no place on the whole route after leaving Adams was there a greater demonstration than at Springfield.

The trip was a peculiar one. Many people from Adams and North Adams accompanied the men as far as Pittsfield.



COMPANY M, 2d MASS. INF., U. S. V.



After that, men who in previous trips to camp had been the life of the party, were decidedly quiet. The Company had a banner painted, which was draped along one side of the first car, "Remember the Maine." This attracted much attention and many comments. They also had a slogan, given like a college yell, "Remember the Maine, Remember the Maine, Company M, to hell with Spain!" More expressive than elegant perhaps, but it helped to keep up their spirits.

ARRIVING AT FRAMINGHAM.

Framingham was reached just before noon and the Company marched to the old field which held so many pleasant memories for them, but now far different. Where before two regiments had occupied the field, arrangements had this time been made for four. Where before there had been lots of room between company streets, the tents were now placed just as close together as possible. From a little distance the camp had the appearance of being one solid piece of canvas. The line of officers' tents, instead of there being two and also quite an open space was an unbroken line from the gate to the cavalry barn.

LIFE IN CAMP.

The adjutant general had very thoughtfully purchased and had placed on the parade, huge piles of wood. During the day the men could keep comfortable but after sun set it was very cold. Then large camp fires would be lighted, around which the men would gather, talk, tell stories, sing and make themselves as comfortable as possible. Here Company M was the centre of a large crowd each night, having one of the best

banjo players in the state, (Harry C. Brown.) The Company, about the first day in camp, sent to Boston and procured a banjo. A quartette was formed, composed of Joseph Gravel, John L. Burt, Corp. George E. Whipple and Harry C. Brown. This proved to be a great attraction, and the very best thing that could have been done.

THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

This began at once. Our Company was examined Thursday afternoon and Friday morning with the result of disqualifying seventeen, many of them on account of eyesight, some finding out for the first time that something was the matter with their eyes.

Saturday morning Capt. Hicks left camp for Adams to look up more men. Saturday afternoon and Sunday the Armory was a busy place as the experience in camp had taught the captain that none but the best need apply.

Sunday morning a telegram was received from the colonel to the effect that all men must be in camp Sunday night as hurry up orders had been received. At that time it was impossible to return that day so the telephone was called into use, with the result that the rumor that the regiment was leaving was only the first of many of the same nature which had foundation only in the mind of some smart newspaper reporter. Monday morning the captain and men left Adams and were with the other men in camp at noontime, so the work of mustering in was rapidly pushed.

Wednesday and Thursday many people, friends of the Company from Berkshire county, visited camp. Wednesday night orders were received for the regiment to be ready to move Thursday. To that end reveillie was sounded the next day at 4.30 a. m. and from that time until 9 o'clock a. m. the

camp was bustle and hurry. Camp was broken, tents rolled and placed in piles ready for transportation. Every thing that was not needed by the men was packed and shipped home. From that time until 3 o'clock p. m. every thing was given up to friends and the telephone and telegraph was kept hot with messages home.

THE TRIP SOUTH.

At 3 o'clock the regiment was formed for the purpose of review before his Excellency, Roger Wolcott, Commander-in-Chief of State Militia, and Governor of Massachusetts. After the review the regiment formed three sides of a hollow square. His Excellency took his position in the center and proceeded to present each officer of the command, beginning with Colonel E. P. Clark, his commission, after which he made a stirring address.

After the ceremony the men had another short time to devote to their friends, after which equipments were donned and the start made for the train. A marching salute was tendered to Gov. Wolcott, he standing on the parapet as the regiment marched off the camp ground. The other regiments were assembled about the gate and paid their compliments to the Second as only soldiers can.

The citizens of Framingham had erected an arch over the main street, bearing this motto: "God be with you until we meet again," under which the Second and all the other regiments passed as they left for the front or camps in the South.

It was supposed that the regiment would go by way of Springfield, but in the afternoon orders were received sending it by way of Newport. The trains were boarded and a start made about seven o'clock. The regiment moved in three

sections. At every station from Framingham to Newport crowds were gathered, red fire was burned and people yelled themselves hoarse. It was their first sight of soldiers moving to the seat of war.

At Newport the magnificent steamer "Plymouth" was in readiness to convey us to New York. It was the work of but a short time to transfer the regiment and baggage to the boat and to make the start. The accommodations of the Plymouth were most excellent. Plenty of room and a good bed for every one while some of the state rooms were models of excellence.

We reached New York early in the morning. The trip down the harbor can never be forgotten. It was pandemonium let loose. Everything that could make a noise was brought into use, steam whistles and bells, while people shouted and waved hats, handkerchiefs and newspapers.

The steamer reached her pier and the regiment proceeded to unload. The transport "Saratoga" came in and took us out to the transport "Vigilancia." Those companies which were to stay on the "Saratoga" placed their baggage between decks, and those which were to be transferred to the "Vigilancia" placed theirs on deck.

The transfer was made to the "Vigilancia" at the dock near the foot of Wall street which was very quickly filled with a crowd of people. Guards were placed to keep visitors off the boat and the soldiers on, but, like many other guards, they did not see all that was going on.

The work of fitting the transport with bunks for the men and taking on stores was hurried along. It was but a short time before a line of communication with the shore was had and not a few articles changed ownership. Those who got ashore found the people of New York very generous and

came back with blouses bulging out in every conceivable shape. A soldier's money was worthless, but his uniform got him anything he expressed a wish for.

At this place many friends of the Company paid us a visit, among whom was Gerald Howatt, a former member and officer of the company, and his son. It is needless to say we were glad to see them.

It was supposed that the regiment was to go to Tampa or Key West by transports and when, at about six o'clock p. m., we were hauled out of the dock by a tug we supposed that our journey south had begun and at once prepared to make ourselves as comfortable as possible. We moved down the harbor and came to anchor off Bedloe Island. During that night and the next forenoon our orders were changed a good many times, and finally to the effect that we hoisted anchor and moved over to Jersey City docks and were transferred to the Pennsylvania railroad. A rumor that Spanish war vessels were cruising off the coast and we being without convoy, made the government deem it unsafe to send us by boat.

Arriving at the wharf, work of transferring equipments and enough of supplies to last us on the trip south was at once begun. This being accomplished, the men were transferred to the train and at eight fifty p. m., Saturday, May 14th, our train pulled out for the journey.

The regiment moved in three sections. The first battalion Companies B, G, D, K, with headquarters filling the first section; Companies E, I, L, M, under command of Major Whipple, the second section; Companies A, C, F, H, under command of Major Fairbanks, the third section. Each section was composed of twelve coaches, one baggage, two freight cars and one sleeper, the sleeper being occupied by the officers and a detail from the medical department. This arrangement

gave each company three coaches so that each man had a seat by himself. At night two men, by turning their seats together, could make fair sleeping quarters.

The trip was without interest until Washington, D. C., was reached Sunday morning at five thirty. We had two hours then to see the early morning sights of the Capitol. Here the men had a chance to wash, as the people had built a trough or water-box alongside the railroad, and the milk peddlers and bakers did a thriving business as long as their wares lasted.

We left Washington at seven thirty. It being Sunday there was nothing in our way so we pushed into the South just a little faster than most of us cared to ride, but as no accident occurred it was all right. Stops were made only to take water, change engines, and at places where coffee for the men had been telegraphed for.

It was a new country and a new experience for nearly every man on the train. The crowds at the stations did not diminish so much in number, but in other ways they were entirely different from the crowds we had been seeing in the North. The "color line" for one thing attracted our attention. At one end of the station there would be a crowd of white people and at the other only black. The white people were very friendly, but the boys who visited the colored people were not received by the white people quite as pleasantly as those who remained entirely with people of their own color. This became more pronounced the farther south we went. Before night the train had become a regular flower garden and some of the flowers were entirely new to us and for that reason were more carefully looked after.

The strange part to us was the sameness of the scenery. For miles and miles there would be nothing but sand, pine trees and negro huts, around which would be several pickan-

nies, a few "razor backs," a few chickens and more dogs. The negro of the South seems to be rated by the number of dogs he keeps.

Our train did not pass through the cities of Baltimore or Charlestown but went in sight of both. I think it was at Florence, S. C., that an old lady appeared with an immense bouquet of sweet peas and of these she gave one to every soldier she could reach. She had lost four sons in the Civil war, fighting for the cause they thought was right. Her only regret was that she could not now do more for the boys in blue. I have the one she gave me yet and deem it one of the best of my souvenirs.

Monday morning we were at Waycross, Georgia and from that time up to Monday night at eight o'clock things were entirely different from Sunday. We were continually being side tracked for other trains and the engines were of a different type than those of Sunday. We had now run up against old wood burners which could hardly pull the train, let alone the idea of speed.

The weather was getting decidedly warm and if we had had a regular army officer along I am afraid his sense of discipline would have been shocked, for parts of our uniforms were conspicuous only by their absence.

"Way down on the Suwanne River." This old popular melody lost its charm for us when we saw the river, from which the song derived its name, for a more uninviting place could not be realized.

CAMP AT LAKE LAND, FLORIDA.

At eight thirty, Monday night, we reached Lakeland, Florida, which was destined to be our camp for the next two weeks. We remained in our train until Tuesday morning

when a place to camp was found and the work of getting our tentage and supplies in shape was in order.

The site of our camp was a very pretty one, on a pine knoll between two lakes. We proceeded to clean up and make ourselves comfortable. The place was christened "Camp Massachusetts" but the name was all that resembled anything in that grand old state.

Here the men were drilled and instructed in the mode of warfare.

The people were very hospitable and took very kindly to the 2nd Massachusetts. They allowed us to get drinking water from their wells and showed us many other courtesies.

It was here that the regiment lost its first member by death. Wesley Brass, of I Company, died of pneumonia contracted at Camp Dewey. The residents sent flowers and did the same as people of the North would have done under similar circumstances. The services were held in the church after which the body was shipped home.

The Masonic lodge at Lakeland had planned to give the members of that order in our regiment a reception on the night of May 30th, but that morning we received orders to break camp and move to Tampa, so this put a stop to that reception, much to our regret.

GOING TO TAMPA.

At about one o'clock, May 30th, our camp equipage being all loaded, the regiment moved to the station and boarded the train for Tampa. We went into camp at Ybor City, on Tampa Heights, near the heavy artillery. Our camp here was a model in some respects, water of very good quality ran through the camp and ice could be had at a price much less than at Lakeland. This was procured through the agency



1ST SERGEANT WILLIAM O'BRIEN



SERGEANT VICTOR KING



SERGEANT JIM B. SMITH



SERGEANT WILLIAM HODECKER



SERGEANT JAMES A. CAMPBELL



SERGEANT BURDETTE H. MILLIMAN

of a Spaniard who had a hotel in the place, at which many of the officers got their meals. This seemed rather peculiar to say the least. We were on our way to fight Spaniards and here we were eating and "hob nobbing" with a Spaniard. He did not seem to care what our business was so long as we had money to buy what he had to sell.

We had here an admirable drill ground, the only drawbacks being its size and the heat of the climate. So far there had been no sickness in our Company to speak of, only a case or two of measles and just a little trouble brought on by climatic changes. Just before we left Lakeland the Ladies Auxiliary to Company M sent us a lot of reading matter so this was put in the captain's tent and that given over for a reading room. The same order prevailed at this camp.

We were at Ybor city until June 8th. June 7th we got an order to break camp and be ready to move at nine o'clock p. m., at which time mule teams would be there to transport our baggage to the train. We were ready, but no mules. This proved to be our first bivouac, but as our orders were to take nothing but arms, equipments, personal baggage of officers and the tentage, the flooring that we had in our tents at Ybor city and Lakeland was used for fires to keep the men warm, as the night was quite cold. The next afternoon the "Wee haws" arrived and we started for Port Tampa.

While at Ybor city we got the first sight of Uncle Sam's "long green" much of which was sent home.

BOARDING THE TRANSPORTS.

We arrived at Port Tampa about ten o'clock p. m., and there again found that orders were not what they seemed.

We had been ordered on board transports but no such thing could be had. After a long search the officer in command was found in bed and arrangements made whereby the regiment could be quartered for the night in the ware house on the dock. This was fairly comfortable as many of the men found beds on a lot of baled hay and others on other merchandise in the building. Our Company was the only one in the regiment which got hot coffee that night or the next morning. While the colonel was looking for a place for the men to sleep the captain and quartermaster sergeant found a place and made coffee.

The next morning it was rumored that we were not to go on board the transports, but into camp just outside the town where many of the volunteer regiments were, but this proved a "fake" and we boarded transports during the forenoon. It was a tedious task. The men were tired and it was very hot between the railroad and boat. In addition to equipage taken from camp, ammunition was added. Handling boxes of ammunition containing 1000 rounds for the Springfield rifle is a man's work and here we found that some men are very willing that others should do all the work. The detail was made for each battalion to do its work, but the detail from one battalion left before half of their equipments were aboard, to say nothing about tentage and ammunition. This had to be done by the detail from our battalion in addition to our own work, in consequence of which the transport pulled out into the harbor and the detail did not get aboard until the next day. This was but one of many instances where the 2nd battalion had the same treatment.

Four companies were quartered on the "Seneca" with regular troops. Colonel Van Horn, who was slated to be our brigade commander, had his headquarters on the transport

and we were sorry indeed when we heard that he had been injured so that he would be unable to fill that place. The troops on the "Seneca" had thought that all the men the boat could possibly accommodate were there before our four companies were added, but they took matters philosophically and set about making arrangements to accommodate us as best they could. Every available inch of space was filled with equipments or men. It was indeed packed, and had we had to go to Cuba in that boat there is no knowing what the result would have been. Another rumor of Spanish war ships just outside the harbor hurried every transport that was loaded and out of the canal back into it, and there we lay for twenty-four hours with three boats abreast, no air, no going ashore, but just stay there and swelter, so if the "Dons" did put in an appearance we could get our arms and ammunition off before they proceeded to sink the transports. This also proved how easy it was for some one to fool the officers in command. The "Dons" had other work cut out for them and all they could do without fooling around Port Tampa. Finally we got out into the harbor again where we could breathe. We staid on the "Seneca" until June 12th when orders came for two companies to be transferred to the "Manteo," a small flat bottomed boat which had been used as a river boat in Mexico. Lots were drawn and E and M Companies took the "Mantoe." Just as we were nicely settled and thought we were to have lots of room a "lighter" came alongside and put two companies of the 17th infantry aboard. This packed us just about as thickly as we were on the "Seneca" but there was no use to kick, so we made the best of it. After coaling, we dropped down to quarantine and found the rest of the transports which had gone down the night before. When we went aboard the "Seneca" we drew ten days travel rations,

this of course we put on the "Manteo" where we were transferred, then we drew three days more.

ON TO CUBA.

At three o'clock p. m., June 13th, we started out into the Gulf of Mexico, but for where was a question much asked but not answered. The convoys were waiting outside to pick us up and pilot us somewhere. It was one of the grandest sights when we got into line of three columns, four hundred feet apart each way, and reaching as far as the eye could see. We expected to touch at Key West, but did not. We were told when we were off Havana but it was too far away for us to see anything. Every thing moved along quietly. No lights were allowed at night except the signals. Our boat rocked quite a little and almost everybody was more or less seasick, most of them more. Lieut. Crosier was the most miserable. He was sick before we got out of sight of land and continued so until after we landed. He would try to get up but it was a failure. "Old Neptune" was too much for him. Sergt. O'Brien stood it well for a while but he also had to settle his accounts. Sergt. Milliman thought his time had come and cared little if it had. That was the case with most of the men. Private Walsh was a sick man when he was put on the "Manteo" but was able to land with the men. Major Whipple and the captain were not sick at all.

During the trip our Company got the use of the scullery two or three nights and baked biscuits and beans and did some other cooking. The other companies ate what they had. The officers' mess on the "Manteo" was a mess. We shall never want to see or hear of garlick again. There were a few incidents of the trip that are worthy of note. The second day

out there was some commotion caused by sighting a couple of steamers. Some thought the Spanish fleet was looking for our scalps. Two or three of the gun boats started out to investigate, but found them to be fruit steamers. Then off the coast of Cuba we were treated to the sight of a water spout which was indeed a novelty. We were near enough to see it plainly and to hear the hiss of the water, which seemed to rise in two distinct columns to a great distance and were topped like mushrooms. Several snap shots were taken of it but I have never heard that they amounted to anything. I presume the camera was lost as the man who owned it was badly wounded afterward.

One of the events of the trip, not very funny at the time, but amusing to think of now, was our experience in the Windward Passage. The old "Manteo," to quote one of the boat hands, "cut up scandalous." It was not a pitch, it was a roll. Just at supper time it was the worst. The dishes on the table of the officers' mess took a sudden desire to be on the floor. The chairs were very unsettled about the place they ought to occupy. Three of the officers' trunks broke from their moorings and went tearing around the room like mad.

Down in the men's quarters E Company was on one side of the boat and M on the other. They had just gotten their supper ready. A couple boilers of coffee and one of baked beans were just ready to be issued when M Company had a sudden desire to call on E. E Company not to be out-lone returned the call at once. By this time the coffee and beans had got mixed up in the general rush. Some of the men managed to get a handful of beans but most of them, with the coffee, found a place on the outside, rather than the inside, of their clothes. It was almost impossible for any one to make his way about the boat. I did not try, but got into my berth and hung on. As the berth ran crosswise of the boat I was

one minute on my feet, the next on my head. We finally succeeded in getting around on the south side of Cuba, off Santiago.

"THE MANTEO" NO. 36.

The captain of the "Manteo," a big fat Dutchman by the name of Brown, could not brook any inference that his boat was not one of the best, and when anything was said about the "old tub" rolling he would get back at them by calling attention to another small boat too insignificant for even a number, "yoost look at the Coomberland!"

The boys, catching on to his strong dislike to hear anything detrimental to his boat, made life a burden for him until he came near doing violence. He said he had rather have one thousand Spaniards on board than one Yankee soldier, but as it was the Yankee soldier, he had to put up with it. After the surrender of Santiago he used to speak of the splendid troops that made their home on his craft from June 12th to 22nd. He had forgotten all the unpleasant features. We lay off Santiago two days and put out to sea at night, I suppose for the purpose of being out of the way if the Spanish fleet made up its mind to come out. Finally, after Gen. Shafter had met Admiral Sampson and Garcia, preparation for our landing was made, the morning of June 22d being the date set for that purpose.

LANDING AT BAIQUIRI.

The convoys had moved in between the transports and the shore and began shelling the coast from Santiago to Baiquiri. They pounded the coast pretty thoroughly to find any masked batteries but got no response. Early in the morning a

Spanish flag was flying from the block house on the cliff at the right of our landing place, but before the shelling began it had been hauled down. An attempt was made to burn the place and especially the wooden pier on which the railroad ran to a small wharf. Had this been successful we should have had to land through the surf. There was quite a number of explosions heard, supposed to be ammunition which they could not carry. They succeeded in burning their camp and two locomotives. As soon as the shelling began, the work of loading troops in small boats was commenced. A launch with a rapid fire gun would tow five or six small boats. It was hard work to land the men as it all had to be done at the one small wharf and in a very rough sea. That there were not more casualties is a wonder. The first troops ashore formed as skirmishers and beat the country for quite a distance but found no resistance. We here formed a very poor idea of the Spaniards' knowledge of warfare. The ground was an ideal one for defense. The cliff upon which the block house stood rose abruptly from the water to the height of perhaps one hundred feet. On the top was a small level plot, then it descended sharply inland. No gun could have thrown a shell in there for if it went high enough it would surely pass over the cliff. One good regiment could have kept the whole 5th Army Corps at bay.

The orders were for each man to carry three days rations, but as our Company had drawn but thirteen days rations since the 8th of June it can readily be seen that we did not have the rations to carry. Had we not been able to buy some rations from a store on the "Orizaba" owned by F Company, 17th Infantry, we should have been without a thing to eat. After getting ashore we found quite a large building filled with cocoanuts and the men feasted on them without any serious results. Two of our Company were too sick to land, Lieut.

Crosier and Sergt. Milliman. James Kershaw, who by the way, did not belong to the Company, but went as servant to the officers, remained with them. Another detail was made to stay with the property of the Company until such time as it could be unloaded or some disposition made of it.

MARCHING TO SIBONEY.

After our regiment had all landed a start was made inland. It was hot and the men, from being confined so long on the transports, were weak. Very slow progress was made, the road, or rather trail, being wide enough for only two men abreast, was steep in places and very slippery. We marched perhaps two and one half miles when we bivouaced for the night. The first order was that no fires should be built, but in a short time the regulars had fires going, so then Colonel Clark gave permission for the 2nd Massachusetts to have them also. Soon the air was filled with the smell of bacon and coffee cooking. It was so warm that many of the men preferred to sleep without shelter tents, but before morning they wished they had put up the shelter as the dew was almost like a rain and the early morning cold. The Cubans, whom we saw that day for the first time, were a hard looking lot and did not come up to our expectations of what the Cubans were. Nevertheless, we were here to fight for them and it was then too late to back out. They formed our outposts that night and it can not be said that we had very much confidence in them.

Peculiar sights and sounds were around us. The trees of Cuba were unlike any that we had ever see. The Spanish bayonet or cactus was in great profusion. The chaparall is a scrubby bush covered with thorns, quite as bad to get through as the cactus. Cocoanut palms were very plentiful and the



FRED A. SIMMONS
CORP.



GEORGE E. WHIPPLE
CORP.



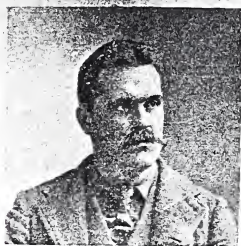
WILLIAM A. SIME
CORP.



JOHN B. STURM
CORP.



SYDNEY H. CLIFFE
CORP.



CHARLES H. HATHAWAY
CORP.



men soon learned that the milk in the green nut was very nutritious. So at every halt it was no uncommon sight to see a dozen men climbing the trees for the fruit which grows at the top. The sounds were still more varied and were such as can be heard no where but in a tropical jungle. There was a peculiar chattering that the natives said was made by monkeys. This might have been so, but to my knowledge not a monkey was seen. Another peculiar sound was very much like the turkey cry. These, the Cubans told us, were Spanish spies signalling each other. We took this with a pinch of salt. But one thing is strange, we did not hear it after the surrender.

It would not have been strange, perhaps, if our first night in Cuba, surrounded as we were by we know not what, had been a sleepless one, but such was not the case. Troops were passing all the time but we were not disturbed unless some poor fellow happened to get a little out of line and stepped on some one, then would compliments be exchanged, perhaps more forcible than polite.

The next morning reveille was sounded all too early for our comfort but that is not supposed to be a thing a soldier has any business with. Orders were to cook breakfast and be ready to move. Before breakfast could have been cooked, had we had it to cook, the order was given to move at once. They who got the coffee cooking burned their mouths trying to drink it. Our march, for quite a distance, was through a thick jungle with a trail just wide enough for one man so that it was some little time before the last company started. Later we were in a more open country and found the heat almost unbearable. Water, pronounced by the Cubans "agwa," was what we most needed. After going perhaps a mile and a half, many of us thought it was ten, water was found, warm to be sure, but wet. This was used sparingly as we were told no

more could be had until Siboney was reached. Here we expected that the "Dons" would have a little reception all ready for us but again they failed us, by moving out on one side as we came in the other. Here we went into camp beside the railroad, in what was dubbed "crab hollow," land crabs being in great numbers and ugliness.

In the afternoon a little firing was heard but did not amount to anything. We found out that the surf bathing was fine and took advantage of it, to the effect that we all felt better. Here we were able to get a little flour and Cuban bread, also a little rice. A nickel would buy as much as a dollar note, the natives not having advanced ideas regarding our paper money.

The Spaniards got out in such a hurry that they left about everything except guns and ammunition, though considerable of the latter was found. They also forgot to scuttle their rum and wine casks which was done for them but not before some of the men had filled their canteens and in some cases themselves as well. I remember eating what Private Page called a "griddle cake." He ought to know what it was since he cooked it and I found it was a wonder of the "chef's" art.

The "Rough Riders," or as we called them, "Wood's Weary Walkers," passed us here and the next day had their world renowned first fight. Thanks should be due the 10th cavalry that they were not entirely used up. We had hurry up orders but before we could get started the firing ceased and the battle was won. We then proceeded to draw rations, which had been unloaded that day at Siboney, took what we could carry, ate all we could, and started out for the scene of the first land battle in Cuba by the 5th army corps.

Instead of going over the mountain we went around it, to the right, and thus had a much easier, though longer march.

Just at dark we got the first look at men killed in our campaign. We had met several wounded men being helped and carried to the rear, but none dead until we reached the first burial ground. It was a wierd sight. A few candles burned dimly, the quavering voice of the priest, as he read the burial service, sent a thrill through us that we had not before realized. As we moved by with uncovered heads the droning notes of taps was heard. It gave us food for reflection, perhaps the morrow would find some of us in the same condition. We moved along, up through a rough and almost impassible trail, to the top of the hill, then turned to the left into what was the last field where the Spaniards made a stand. Here we camped for the night. We had but just got there when the men from Col. Wood's command began asking for something to eat, they having left their haversacks before going into the fight, a favor that was that night and next morning cheerfully given. Many a man who had carried an extra load to have in case of need gave that and divided the stock in his haversack. Colonel Roosevelt in his article on the "Rough Riders" makes no note of anything of this nature. In fact he does not seem to know that there was any other organization aside from his own. They were brave men and deserve great praise and they will not be forgotten.

The next morning orders were received to move along. Just as we were moving out, the men we left on the transport, including the sick, came up. That made our Company complete except Private Hugh Brown who had been left at Tampa on account of sickness, and Artificer Alderman who was detailed to remain on the boat with property until it should be unloaded. At this time Private J. Gravel, Jr., was doing duty in the hospital and Corp. G. E. Whipple was with the ordnance fiocer as his assistant. Corp. C. H. Hathaway had had charge of the horse detail since we were at Ybor City

and the other men on that detail, from our Company, on the trip to Cuba, were Privates Carey, Coones and Partridge. We moved that morning but a very short distance and went into camp, in which we staid over Sunday although we packed up once and started out but were ordered back. Here we received the first mail that we had had since before leaving Port Tampa. Much of this was lost on the way as it was sent by individuals, but a little was better than none. Here too we were able to start mail home. We got the best water in this camp of any on the campaign. A regular mountain stream that had fish in it, very much like our brook trout. We had no scruples about this water being poisoned. Getting the water at night and letting it hang out in the air in the canteens over night made it cool and palatable the next morning. During this time rations were not very plentiful, yet we had something every day. Monday we moved quite a distance and went into camp at El Paso. Here we had, from the top of a hill, at our front as we lay in camp, a very good view of Santiago and the harbor. It was in this camp that Sergt. O'Brien had an inspiration. If horses and mules could eat oats, why not men? It was tried but not for a steady diet. The want of tobacco at this time was even worse than the want of food. The second day in this camp the captain, with one plug of tobacco and six cigars, got from the men in the 22nd infantry hard bread enough for a fair meal for the Company. The 22nd had drawn rations that day but were out of tobacco. A piece that would hardly make a good "chaw" would get five pieces of hard tack, and another piece the same size, a good large ration of bacon. Money was no good, tobacco was what they wanted. This was nearly all we had to eat for two days. It was here that we got acquainted with Father Fitzgerald, who became such a prime favorite with our Company as well as with the entire regiment. He was chap-

lain of the 22nd. Wednesday we drew rations and a detail had been sent back for tobacco. Thursday more rations came and an order to cook for three days, a rather hard matter as we only drew for one day and but about one half a ration at that.

ON TO EL CANEY.

Here was the first appearance of that famous war balloon. It was a novelty and served to break the monotony. Artillery had been moving to the front, also a long line of Cubans. This led us to believe that there was a decisive move to be made and soon, which proved to be the case. This was the 30th of June and the rainy season was fully on, it having rained every day for four days, the first rain coming Sunday at the camp back of this. Just before night we were ordered to be ready to move at six o'clock. We moved out to the trail but had to wait some time for other troops to pass who were going on to San Juan. After a long wait we started and marched until ten o'clock, through mountain passes, through streams and mud; the men moving in single file at two paces. It was a wonder to us that the Spaniards should let so many good chances to wipe us out, go by. We were cautioned to make no noise, all orders were given in a low tone, and repeated back from man to man. Caution was taken that our tin cans should not come in contact with metal. At about ten o'clock we arrived at the top of a hill in sight of Caney, and bivouaced for the rest of the night. Details had been made for guards to report at headquarters, upon going into bivouac. When the officer of the day got to headquarters he found but five companies represented by their detail. In the other companies the men had gone to sleep. It was not a pleasant job to get them out but they had to go. The work

of posting guard over, the officer of the day and guard were as wet as if they had been in a river. They threw themselves down for what sleep they could get. The regiment was awakened by the guard at 3.30 a. m. and arrangements made for an early move on El Caney. This was hindered some time by the artillery getting into position. At last we were on the move. Five companies of the 2nd were shut out by the battery, they opening fire just after we had passed them. About a mile out we threw off our rolls and haversacks and got ready for trouble. Just ahead we moved up and formed line back of the 'sunken road. Through some misunderstanding E Company passed to our left. This put M Company on the extreme right of our brigade, one half of the Company on the sunken road, the other half on the telephone road. As the left of the Company passed over the road in their front the right swung around and passed into the field, nearly at right angle with the left. Here the ball opened in earnest. We staid in the field until General Ludlow, then in command of the brigade, told us to retire to the protection of the road. Just as we got into the road Wagoner Thiel was wounded. The other half of the Company, with the exception of one section, retired into the other road. Our regiment burning black powder served to make a target for the enemy. Our orders from Gen. Ludlow were not to fire unless we could see some one to fire at. As the rest of our brigade was nearly at right angle to us he was fearful that we might hit them. The section that had gotten in on the left of the Company found themselves in a position safer to stay where they were than to try to get to the Company. It was with this section that Lieut. Monnihan got his wound. Up to noon the hottest kind of firing was in our direction. After that it was not quite so severe. Some time after noon Colonel Clark directed the right of the Company to join the line on the other road, as it was thought an

advance was contemplated at that point. This was done without loss. The line in the field was relieved and given a chance to rest. Shortly after this move the 25th colored infantry came as reinforcement. After a little break, at our right, they did most excellent work. Their charge broke the hearts and heads of what there was left of the Spaniards. In this battle, lasting from about seven in the morning until five in the afternoon, the Company had five men wounded. It is a wonder only explained by the poor marksmanship of the enemy that any who participated in that battle are alive to tell the story. If one tenth of the shots fired by the Spaniards had found a target there would not have been a man left.

Corporal Simmons, who had been detailed to the hospital corps, was one of the first men in our Company to get hit. He was on the line attending to a wounded comrade when a sharpshooter, stationed in a tree, made him a target and must have emptied his Mauser at him as his clothes had several holes in them and his right knee was pierced by a bullet. Private Carey was hit in the cheek, Acting Corporal Paradise in the shoulder, Private Walsh through the thigh, the bullet going so near the main artery that some of its tissues were cut. Wagoner Thiel was wounded on the right temple. He afterwards died at his home in Adams of typhoid fever.

SAN JUAN.

After the battle was over and the dead and wounded looked after, the regiment was formed, arms stacked, and the men given a chance to rest. Camp had not been pitched before orders were received for the brigade to move at once for Santiago. As soon as the Company had been assembled

the captain told the men to make themselves comfortable, had a detail made to get water, with the thought that the men would have a chance to get something to eat, many of them not having eaten anything since the night before. He then turned the Company over to Lieut. Crosier and went to the hospital to see what shape the men were in. He could not find Corp. Simmons or Private Carey. The others were seen and their immediate wants attended to. Private Walsh had no blanket so one was sent him by Private E. D. Mooney who was at that time detailed to the hospital corps in place of Corp. Simmons. Here he stayed and did most excellent work until the regiment left for Santiago. Before the captain could get back the regiment had been re-formed and started on the road to Santiago. We moved out about two miles and halted, we supposed for a short rest, but what proved to be a bivouac. The men dropped down where they were and were soon fast asleep. During the night mule trains came in with rations and ammunition. At 4.30 next morning we were routed out and instead of moving toward Santiago, were ordered back, over the same road we traveled the night before, to El Caney, from there back nearly where we bivouaced the night of June 30th. There we took a trail to our right, over the mountain, to the south east of Santiago, going in by way of the division hospital and "bloody ford." Here the sharpshooters were making it warm for everybody. Mule teams were pressed into the service to bring wounded men from the field, the day before the hottest kind of work being done at this point. Before getting to the field we met any quantity of stragglers, mostly from one regiment and they were a badly demoralized lot of men. One incident that came under my notice showed what a man can and will do under such circumstances. One man, a mule driver, with a load of wounded men, just before



EUGENE E. LEE.



AMEDEE A. VADNAIS.



JERRY BARRY



BRYAN DWYER.



ALFRED N. PAGE



ALFRED N. GELINAS.



FRANK R. HARRIS.



JOHN J. WALSH



EDWARD DUNN



coming through the field had his load of wounded fired on by sharpshooters, from a tree at the right of the road. Just as his team got opposite the tree he pulled his "six shooter" Colt's revolver and emptied it into the tree with the effect of dropping "Mr. Sharpshooter." He looked at the fellow as he fell, quickly refilled the chamber of his revolver, and moved along. The sharpshooter had branches and leaves fastened to his clothing.

Just after crossing the ford we threw off our rolls and haversacks, left James Kershaw and one other to guard them, and moved up under San Juan hill. Here we were held in reserve. It being very hot the different companies arranged themselves under trees to get what shade they could. Our Company was under a tree near the center of the field. This seemed to be a point the Spaniards had a particular grudge against. The bullets were trimming the trees in great shape, so much so that we deemed it prudent to vacate until the job was completed. We moved up nearer the base of the hill and soon got orders to move around the hill to the right. We were under fire all the rest of the day but without any chance to get back at them. Just at night we sent a detail back after our rolls and haversacks. This was done under trying circumstances. They were under fire most of the way but got back with the rolls without any of our men getting hurt, although several of them had bullet holes in their clothes. After they returned we had permission to build fires and cook something to eat. This was our first meal for forty-eight hours. Before dark the fires were ordered out and we got our camp in readiness and turned in. About ten o'clock the "Dons" opened up again and we were routed out to see what it all meant. We made our formation and started up the hill, with orders to hold our fire. We pushed up to the top of the hill but could

see nothing to shoot at. So after staying out about two hours, the firing having ceased, we were sent back to quarters.

The side of the hill on which our camp was located beside having about every kind of bush and shrub incident to Cuba also had the poison oak, a shrub growing from five to eight feet in height. The upper side of the leaf was very smooth and shone in the sun like a piece of glass. The under side was covered with thorns. These were what caused the trouble. To many of the men this poison was like the ivy of Berkshire, or rather worse. Wherever they touched the flesh water blisters would appear and if these came in contact with any other part of the body that spot would almost immediately be inoculated and be as bad or worse than the original. Many of the men were poisoned and with the limited medical stores there was but little to give relief. The itchings and burning sensation must have been almost unbearable. Salt was about all that would relieve and that commodity was about as scarce as medicine.

Lieut. Laferriere had the worst of it in our Company. He could not see with either eye and his hands were swollen so that they looked more like small hams than what they were. Just below the camp there was a small stream, the banks of which were lined with cactus or Spanish bayonet. This has a long leaf with thorns on each edge and was what the Spaniards had planted all along the trails beside the barbed wire fences. It grows very fast and makes a hedge that without some sharp instrument it is impossible to make an opening.

On the other side was a large grove of bamboos just where the bullets, as they came over the hill, would strike. As the trees are hollow it made a peculiar sound as they went in one side and out the other and perhaps through a dozen more. Along this hill was the only place we found where barbed wire fence did not grow in profusion. If the Spaniards

had put as much labor in tilling the ground as they had in planting barbed wire there would have been food in abundance for all.

About 4 a. m. next morning there was quite a bombardment off Santiago but as it did not seem to be coming our way we went to sleep again. In the morning the ball opened again in a desultory sort of way but was kept up but a short time. We soon heard that an armistice was on. About the middle of the forenoon the big guns began to talk. Of course just what it meant was a conjecture to us but we came pretty near the truth of the matter when we made up our minds that a battle was on between the two fleets.

The sounds became more and more indistinct, and finally ceased entirely. We then knew that the battle was over, and no one doubted the result though we did not dream that not a single boat of Cervera's fleet was left afloat. Just before night it was rumored that Sampson had captured the entire fleet. Then and there we proceeded to celebrate. The band played the "Star Spangled Banner" and "There will be a Hot Time in the Old Town To-night." The men danced and yelled. Then we got supper and went to bed.

The next morning, July 4th, we got orders to move along to the right. We moved a long distance to get a little way from where we had been for two days. We finally pitched camp on the east side of a hill which shut off our view of Santiago but would serve to ward off bullets, should the Spaniards get careless with their "Mausers."

BEFORE SANTIAGO.

Here the commissary got to us with a little something beside bacon and hard tack. The captain celebrated his birthday by treating the men with a little tobacco and a few prunes. The commissary informed Capt. Pierce of L Company and

Capt. Hicks of M that if he had some money he could get lots of things for the men. They each gave him fifty dollars and a list of goods they needed. The next day he appeared just back of camp, with the goods which their money had bought, and proceeded to sell to everyone. The captains expected of course that he had their articles all right and waited patiently for him to come with them. He finally came, but all he had left was about sixteen dollars worth. The English language was not strong enough to express their disgust, but it is safe to say he did not get any more commissions from them. It was at this place that our first trenches were dug, with knives, meat cans and bayonets. Finally they were completed and topped with bags of sand. We had put our hearts into the work and built them for use and comfort. After we had them wide and deep enough we cut the outside bank about half way down, forming a shelf to sit on as well as put our ammunition. Imagine our disgust, just after their completion, to get orders to move on to the right and just as we moved out to see the 71st New York occupy them.

While in this camp Privates Gravel and Ferguson were taken sick and sent to the regimental hospital. Sergt. Milliman had the mumps and was quarantined. It was here that one very unpleasant thing happened. The doctor had ordered condensed milk for Gravel but there was none in the Company. The chaplain had several cans so the captain tried to buy one but he refused to sell, saying, he needed it.—The milk was used as the doctor ordered. From this time until July 10th it was dig trenches and move to the right.

IN THE TRENCHES.

In the forenoon of July 10th, we moved into the only trenches we had not helped dig, these having been dug by

Cubans. The armistice ended at four o'clock p. m. and at four-thirty we opened fire all along the line. The Spaniards sent a few shells our way but they did no damage, except to dig up the ground in our rear. They fired a few volleys in our direction but most of the bullets fell short. We fired about twenty rounds per man, but only when we could see something to shoot at. The next morning we were much interested in watching the bombardment of the city, which was kept up until about noon, but with no return from the enemy. It was a great sight to see the shells strike and explode, and if one happened to hit a building the air would be full of timbers and smoke.

Here another armistice went into effect to last till July 14th, noon. At twelve-thirty we got orders to move again. We moved around a hill to our right and came out in extension of line to reach the harbor. We went into camp and had just put the tents up when the hardest shower we had ever seen came on. It did not rain, but came down in sheets. The thunder, the heaviest in our experience, the lighting, the sharpest. It poured all night and the next forenoon, but at night every thing was dry though in the morning mud was knee deep. Just as we got to the place Capt. Hicks was ordered to take a detail and reconnoitre the ground in our front. He got as far as the railroad and could hear the Spanish outposts talking, about three-quarters of a mile in front of the camp. After our outposts had been placed the detail returned to camp just a bit wet. Sleep was out of the question. Most of us stood up with our ponchos over our heads, but Sergt. Smith slept through the night in a running stream from six to eight inches deep.

The next morning we laid out a line of trenches and started to dig but an order soon came to move on. We moved through the mud and rain into an open space, very close to

the railroad, laid out another line of trenches and began again. M Company was the first detail. We were within one hundred and fifty yards of one of the enemy's batteries and we expected, of course, that as soon as they saw what we were doing, to get an invitation to quit, but nothing of that sort occurred. They simply came out on their trenches and watched us work. Running along one side of the field we were in was a road. After the trenches were started everybody not at work was ordered into the road. It was a pleasant place, huddled in there like a flock of sheep, with a battery facing us. Had the enemy taken it into their heads to let a few shells through there the 1st brigade, 2nd division, 5th army corps, would have left only a record. The mud was knee deep but after a while we got out into the open again and as the shower had spent itself and the sun had come out we got to work drying our blankets and clothing. All this time the digging went merrily on, each company worked an hour at a time so that the second round came in twelve hours. At this time we had tools enough for one company to work at one time.

During the heavy rain Private Duprey, who was taken sick and sent to the regimental hospital two days before, was left by the ambulance on the top of the hill back of our camp, that being as far as a team could go. A detail was made to go after him but the surgeon said he had put him into a tent in the 1st infantry and as they were doing all they could it was better to leave him than to try to get him in through the dark and rain. So the detail was dismissed, as we supposed the surgeon had done as he said.

The next morning a message was sent in from the 1st infantry saying that one of our men had been found by the side of the trail in very bad condition, that one of the officers had taken the man into his quarters and was doing all

that could be done. We immediately started back and found him as stated in the message. He had been found about three o'clock in the morning by a sentry and taken to this officer's quarters, who had done everything that he could for his relief. That he would have gotten wet if he had been in our camp is a fact, but there would have been some protection. Why the surgeon should have told us what he did is a question that has never been answered. He was taken sick the next day and it might have been he was out of his head.

SURRENDER OF SANTIAGO.

This proved to be our last camp in Cuba. The work of digging trenches was pushed night and day to the effect that at eleven o'clock a. m., July 14th, they were completed and arrangements made to occupy them. Tents were folded square to serve as seats; blankets and ponchos spread out over the top to keep out sun and rain. In fact, all that was possible was done for a siege. At twelve o'clock the men went into the trenches. The armistice had expired and trouble was liable to begin at any moment. It looked to us that when they did open fire it would not be a question of how many would get their billet, but if any could avoid it. We were there for business and proposed to stay. The trenches were pretty warm and it was not a great while before our usual shower came on. One end of our trench being considerable lower than the other, water began to accumulate and was soon two or more feet deep. This caused the men to huddle together and where it was warm before it was hot. Orders were given that one half of the men come out and keep out of sight as much as possible back of the trenches. One, two, and three o'clock came and yet no demonstration. By this

time all of the men had been allowed to come out. The officers, with their glasses, having kept a sharp lookout and seeing nothing that looked suspicious, deemed it prudent to allow the men more air.

Presently what looked like a flock of small birds appeared for an instant on our extreme left. In a few minutes this was repeated, a little nearer, and in a short time, still nearer. After three or four of these had been seen we were able with our glasses to make out what they were. They were campaign hats. We then knew what we had for quite a while suspected, that is, that the enemy had surrendered. Very soon they were plainly visible to the naked eye. About four-thirty, a courier, his horse covered with foam, rode into our regiment. Removing his hat and rising in his stirrups, said: "Boys, don't cheer. Respect the enemy. Santiago has surrendered with twenty thousand men," and was away like the wind with the news to the 8th and 22nd infantry. Our hats took several trips heavenward and then we settled down to the business of the hour.

Everything was taken out of the trenches, camp was pitched and preparations made for what proved to be our most serious trouble. That night camp was a most cheerful place. The bands played, the men sang, laughed and joked. The next day a few men, looking around to see what could be seen, wandered into the city. When they returned they were promptly arrested, sent to guard quarters, and the next day the colonel read the "Riot act" to them. After they had been ordered back to their companies the captains gave them another taste of what the English language is capable. This had the desired effect, no further trouble coming from that source.

The next day after the surrender the Spaniards came to our lines and wanted to trade anything they had for food. Of course they were not allowed inside but there were crowds of



THOMAS TOBITT, JR.



HUGH F. BROWN



EDWARD H. CASSIDAY



BENJAMIN RILEY



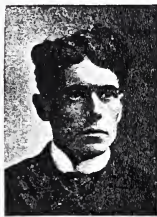
KELLER H. BRIGGS



DAVID C. FERGUSON



GEORGE W. ALDERMAN



WILLIAM H. DUGGAN



JOHN L. BURT



them outside. About all that we had to trade with them was hardtack and bacon and it was surprising what a few pieces of hard bread would bring in return. One Spaniard had nothing but a gold piece, about the size of our twenty, which he gladly gave up for rations enough to last one day. This was about the last chance the men had for trading with them as they began to draw government rations and were better off than we were.

The Cubans began to invade our camp with articles of all kinds and for quite a few days they drove a big trade in cigars, machettes, handkerchiefs, Spanish buttons, native sugar and fruits. After a few days the officers thought there was danger of disease if the people were allowed to bring stuff from the city, as no one knew just where it came from.

One of the peculiar sights to us was the cemetery. It was built up in three tiers of cells or places for coffins. The front was of marble and the vaults were of brick and cement. The coffin would be placed in the receptacle and cemented in front of which would be a space for flowers and other things that the friends of the deceased might be pleased to place therein. This was enclosed in glass.

They pay so much per year for the use of tomb and when the parties hiring them fail to pay rent the bones are taken out and dumped in a pile at one end of the cemetery. There was a pile of human bones of all kinds as big as a good sized house. Not a particularly pleasant sight to see.

A little way from the cemetery was a Cuban village, which attracted quite a few of the men until it was found that yellow jack had an abiding place there when those visits stopped pretty quick. The men who visited the place told some peculiar stories of the manner in which they lived.

Gen. Garcia had his headquarters just outside the entrance to the cemetery. The writer saw the general, his

wife, and staff at breakfast one morning. They seemed to enjoy it, but for my part I should have preferred some other place where the odors would have been a little less pronounced. Evidently there had been quite a number of deaths whose people had been too poor to rent a tomb.

July 17th the whole 5th army corps was drawn up in line on the trenches. While the final papers were being signed, and again at noon when "Old Glory" was flung to the breeze from the governor's palace in Santiago, Capron's battery fired the National salute. The bands played the "Star Spangled Banner" and the men yelled. From this time we had practically nothing to do. Guard duty and keeping camp clean hardly served as exercise for the men.

As soon as the excitement was over the men began to get sick. When before this, rations were very scarce, we now had more than we could use. Fresh meat was obtained but it did not taste quite as good as we thought it would. If it was taken out of cold storage in the morning and delivered early it was all right, but take it out the night before and it would be spoiled before we could use it.

Matters grew rapidly worse. An old railroad station was taken for a hospital and this rapidly filled. Up to this time our supply of medicines had been very limited. Salts, castor oil and quinine being about all we had.

The men answering surgeons' calls would get salts one morning and the next castor oil. It was no strange sight, at reveille, to see men crawl out of their tents, try to stand up but fall like logs before any one could reach them. This was one of the stages of malaria. Home sickness was another and perhaps worst feature we had to deal with. With nothing to do the men had plenty of time to think. That is what

wrought the mischief. A soldier must not think. The men who tried the hardest to keep up, in most cases, were the best off.

ARRIVAL OF TEXAS.

About the only thing which had any interest for the men was the transports getting into the harbor. The Red Cross boat "Texas" was the first one in and from that date our medical department began to improve. We began to get hammocks and cots for the hospital and much needed supplies.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the Red Cross people. They were untiring in their efforts. Had it not been for them many another name would have been added to the long list of men who had served their country well but have fought their last fight. Here was a state of affairs, which perhaps a few had read about, none seen, or expected to see. That is, not enough well were there to take care of the sick. This was our case. A hard problem to solve, if any special duty had to be done, was where to get the men to do it. I have this to say of M Company. Whatever their hardships were they took their medicine with a soldier's fortitude. It was not their fault if mistakes had been made, nor did they find fault with what could not be helped.

July 25th the captain cabled to Adams these two words: "All well." This was not meant to convey the meaning that none were ill, but that there were no cases to his knowledge that might prove fatal.

It was not known at this time nor until several days after that two members of the Company, David C. Ferguson and

Joseph Gravel, Jr., were dead. It was supposed that they had been sent to the States, for one of the doctors said that he saw them when they were put aboard.

MAIL FROM HOME.

One thing happened here which had a very decided effect on the boys. About the first of August, just at supper time, there came to our camp a mule team with five mail sacks full to the brim of good things from home.

Nobody was forgotten. Even those who had been wounded and returned to the states had packages. Some of them were badly broken, but most had some mark so that the rightful owner got them. Eating was out of the question. Men, who before this had been hardly able to drag around, showed signs of life and from that time were better. These gifts were acknowledged at the time but if, by chance, there is any one who contributed and has not received our thanks this shall be our public acknowledgment of the same.

There is no place like camp for rumors to circulate. Had one tenth part of as many things happened as were absolutely going to happen the result would have been something frightful. The first death to occur in our camp was Private James M. Smith, of heart failure, Aug. 3d. The second, Wallace M. Bruce, of congestive chills, Aug. 10th.

ARRIVAL OF PAYMASTER.

Aug. 10th Paymaster May, a Berkshire man, paid our regiment for two months service. His was the first face from our county we had seen since leaving New York. Aug. 11th

Private William H. Crockwell died of heat prostration and Aug. 12th Corporal George E. Whipple died of yellow fever.

I think it was July 28th when we got our big tents from the transports and began to have things a little more comfortable. Lieut. Laferriere was taken sick the first of August, that is, to be confined to his bed. Aug. 3d Sergt. Campbell was used up, and the next day Sergt. Smith gave out. They were all in the captain's tent and the doctor said "three cases of yellow jack." What ever it was they were very sick men. Lieut. Crosier had been detailed July 1st, after Lieut. Monnihan was wounded, to act as battalion adjutant. About Aug. 1st Adgt. Hawkins gave up and Lieut. Crosier was detailed to do his work. The two offices combined served to keep him very busy. The captain's tent was quite a hospital and as James E. Kershaw, who has been mentioned before, had gone to the hospital to care for his brother and others of the company who were then sick, the captain was left alone. After a few days Lieut. Crosier asked Color-Sergt. Ward to look after the duties at headquarters so that he could do more work for the Company. About the first of August 1st Sergt. O'Brien, who had been quite sick for several days, was sent to the division hospital. About this time Sergt. Milliman, who had been back at the yellow fever hospital, came on and for a few days acted as 1st sergeant, then he was taken sick. It was through him we learned of Ferguson's and Gravel's death, he having been detailed to help take care of them. There was a time that a corporal (Cliffe), the only non commissioned officer who was not sick, acted as 1st sergeant. Sergt. King was sick the last three weeks in Cuba.

HOMeward BOUND.

The night of Aug. 10th orders came to the effect that the regiment would move in forty-eight hours for the transports.

Then expectation ran high. Aug. 11th the regiment was examined by doctors for yellow fever, with the result that quite a number had to remain. When the regiment left, from M Company 1st. Sergt. O'Brien was at the division hospital, Sergts. Campbell and Smith in the captain's tent, Privates Duprea, Mercier and Riley at regular hospital. Details from each company had to be made to remain and care for them. Here was a dilemma. There was not a man in the entire Company who was able to stay, although quite a good number were much better than they had been. The captain told Col. Clark that he would stay. He had not been sick a day and felt perfectly able to remain. This the colonel would not listen to. He told him his place was with the Company. At this time James E. Kershaw made himself a hero. He volunteered his services, although not of the Company, yet he was with them and showed his love for them by his loyalty. At about three o'clock, Aug. 12th, the regiment started for Santiago and the transport "Mobile." Fully one half of the regiment had been sent in the forenoon. Some of them made up details to look after the baggage, but most of those too weak to walk. We thought there would be mules alive after we were dead so men, who possibly might have walked, were sent by team. Finally at about six o'clock we were all on board. The next thing was to find quarters for the men. Somebody should have attended to this so that as each company went on they could have gone direct to their quarters.

At last a place was found and the men made as comfortable as possible. Something was found for them to eat and that was all that could be done that night.

The next day other quarters were found where the men could have a little more room and better air. Each man had a hammock but some preferred to make a bunk on the floor. Arrangements were made with the steward so that warm rolls

could be had each morning. These, with what we were able to buy in Santiago, helped the men out on the trip North.

At one-thirty p. m., Aug. 13th, the trip began. We were all anxious to see what Morro castle looked like, having heard so much about the strength of the place. In this, as also what we saw of the fleet, our only surprise was how they had stood any bombardment.

The "Mobile" was crowded. On it was the entire brigade. Yet had we had the "Mobile" on the trip out we should have thought we were blessed. Many of the men were in no condition to travel in any boat. The rations entirely unfit for well men to eat. What could sick men do with them? Our Company lost but one man on the trip, Private Franklin W. Manning of Pittsfield. He had been quite sick previous to leaving Santiago. It was thought best that he remain and come later on the hospital boat. This he could not think of. He had come out with the Company and wanted to go back with it. Finally it was decided that it would not be more injurious to him to come than to stay. He got along fairly well until Aug. 16, then he took a turn for the worse and died the 17th, and was buried at sea. The sick bay was the worst place on the boat. It was on the upper deck and covered by canvas. This gave the men more air, but when it rained the poor fellows got wet. Here, as in caring for the dead, the crew made themselves very helpful. Whatever may have been said to the contrary we did not see one thing against them. They did everything they could and with all respect.

The second morning out of Santiago a boat was sighted coming up on the western horizon. What it was could only be conjectured. Of course anything out of the ordinary would furnish any amount of conversation. We had our coffee and went on deck but it was yet so far away our glasses were of no use. After breakfast we again assembled. She was then show-

ing enough to make us confident that it was some war vessel, but could not make out her colors. Rumors were rife that it was a Spanish boat that had not heard of the surrender and was after us as she was heading our way. Pretty soon a puff of smoke was seen from her bows. We paid no attention to it but kept on our course. It was not long before the black smoke began to belch from her stacks, showing that she was minded to know what we were and whither bound. We did not hear any report from the first puff so we were not sure that it was a signal for us to stop. The officers were all assembled on the rail and waited with what patience they could for developments. These were not a long time coming. Pretty soon we saw another puff and this time we heard the report as she sent a shot across our quarter. It was deemed best to stop and see what it all meant. The "Mobile" was not made to stop anything larger than a rifle ball, so it was not deemed prudent to invite any unnecessary trouble. Up to this time it had been impossible to make out her colors, as she was approaching us on the quarter. As soon as she got near enough she ran up a signal which read "want to talk with you." This was answered "all right." By this time she changed her course enough for us to make out "Old Glory." So all thoughts of being taken prisoners and sent to Spain vanished. After finding out who and what we were her course was changed. The men were assembled on her quarter deck and as she passed astern we were cheered to the echo, which was returned by our men as lustily as possible. The United States gunboat "Yankee" thus came and went, giving us an unpleasant hour or two.

ARRIVAL AT MONTAUK POINT.

On the evening of Aug. 19th we were off Montauk Point. The next morning a medical officer came aboard and exam-



JESPER COONES



JOHN REARDON



RICHARD BRUCE



WILLIAM J. DUPRA



CHARLES DANIELS



ABRAHAM KERSHAW



JOHN WEIR



ALFRED THEIL



MATTHEW MCGLYNN



ined every one for contagious diseases to the effect that another transport, then at the wharf, was recalled and the "Mobile" sent in. The sick were taken off that afternoon. Before the wharf was reached one man was recognized waiting for us. It was our old surgeon, David B. Clark of Springfield who was there in behalf of the Massachusetts Aid association and others, to do what he could for the 2nd. The first thing on deck was a big pile of morning papers. This was a treat, since for some time our paper boy had not delivered them very promptly. In fact, any paper less than two weeks old was not to be had. The next morning the rest of the regiment was unloaded and marched to detention camp, perhaps a mile from the wharf, but it seemed ten. When we left Tampa we had in line at least nine hundred men. At this time we did not have three hundred. Camp was at last reached. We had fondly believed that as soon as we were out at sea the men would recover rapidly. This did not prove to be the case as at this time we had nearly, if not quite twice as many, in the hospital than before we left Santiago. A great deal of fault has been found with Camp Wyckoff, but again I feel it was an ideal one. But in the condition the men were in there could hardly have been a good camp anywhere. How the great big hearts of the people did open to the soldiers. Everybody who could get there came, and no one came empty handed. Luxuries of every description were showered upon us. No doubt but that it would have been infinitely better had they not done so much, but there was no army discipline which could stop them.

Dr. O. J. Brown, the assistant surgeon of the 2nd, before they were called to Cuba came to do what he could for the boys, particularly to Company M was he a very welcome guest, or rather benefactor. There were some pathetic scenes, one in particular. Mr. C. F. Smith whose son was a sergeant

in Company M came there Sunday to see his boy, not knowing that he had been left sick at Santiago. He had brought letters to many of the boys directly from home and had been commissioned with many articles for their comfort. It was pitiful to watch him as he fulfilled his mission. What must his thoughts have been when he looked at some of the men and realized that his son was sicker than they? While in this camp two more answered the last roll call—Artificer Alderman and Bugler Duggan. They, it was thought, would be all right in a short time but the travel and change had been too much for them.

HOME.

August 21st the doctors formed a conspiracy against the captain and sent him to the hospital. He protested, saying he was all right, in fact much better than most of the men. But they were obstinate. Typhoid fever was his portion and he had to go—but he wouldn't please them enough to have the fever. Aug. 23d Messrs. W. B. Plunkett and J. C. Chalmers came to Montauk. They visited the hospital and during their talk they asked the captain if he felt able to go home. He assured them that he did. The surgeon in command of the hospital refused the request. But Secretary of War Alger being in camp he was appealed to with the effect that he gave them an order to take the captain and Lieut. Laferriere home, they to report to the adjutant general of the army for future orders.

This was the day for the regiment to leave detention camp and take another further away, where it was supposed they would remain for some time at least. The condition of the men and the demand of the people of Massachusetts decided

the government to furlough the whole command, which was done so that the men, who were able, reached their homes Saturday, Aug. 26th. It is impossible at this time to name each individual who contributed to the comfort of M Company after the return. Suffice it to say we appreciate that kindness and shall remember so long as life shall last their loving tenderness.

The regiment left Montauk on the morning of Aug. 26th. Boat to New London, train from there to Springfield and home. Many citizens had gone to Montauk and Springfield to return with the men. Everything that could be was done for their comfort. Two physicians volunteered to accompany the Company to Adams.

Private Reardon was in such shape as to make it advisable to send him to the hospital at Springfield.

When the train arrived in Adams there was a large crowd around the station, but they were not allowed to crowd in on the men, precautions having been taken to rope off the station. Carriages were waiting to take the men home. This was done except in a few cases where it was not deemed advisable to take men to their homes. One in particular, where there was a case of typhoid fever in the house, and others that lived at some distance. They were taken to the Greylock House, Landlord Morse offering the use of his house for their comfort. In North Adams the same rule prevailed.

The newspapers had sounded a warning to the people not to visit the men, as any undue excitement could not be borne.

As soon as the men reached home and any of them were able to ride, the good people of Adams placed their teams at their disposal. It was no uncommon thing to meet six or eight teams, during an afternoon, with soldiers not handsome,

but happy. It may be some time before they will have more rides in the same kind of turnouts. A single buggy is good enough for most of us now.

As soon as we commenced to get better the people began to talk receptions. This was not encouraged, but that did not stop them. The G. A. R. of North Adams got in their bid first. We took a trolley ride up there, had a short parade, and a reception in G. A. R. hall, where the "yellow kids of '98" were made welcome.

MUSTERED OUT.

The night of Nov. 3d, after being mustered out in Springfield, the Company was tendered a reception by the people of Pittsfield where they painted and striped the town for us.

Then Adams got in its work. We had a parade in the afternoon and a banquet and reception in the evening. This gathering was presided over by Hon. W. B. Plunkett and was a typical Adams invention. The ladies were invited and after they had become acclimated to the smoke seemed to enjoy it as much as those of the sterner sex.

Several of the Company had procured furloughs for thirty days and came home before the rest. Mr. Hager and Mr. Barton from Dalton went to Montauk, where they were instrumental in helping the men, in fact, they came home with quite a number, including Corp. Hathaway, Privates Weir, Hager, Ward and Mooney. Corp. Sturm was about the first one to arrive from Montauk, but he overdid, caught cold and had to go to the North Adams hospital, where he died on Sept. 4th, of pneumonia. Privates Lee and Thompson had been sent to New York, Private Aspin to Boston. Bugler Stone went to a hospital near his old home in Connecticut. Private Cadigan got home the Sunday following by way of New York, in care

of Dr. Boom. Sergts. Smith and Campbell and Private Mercier left division hospital in front of Santiago, Aug. 20th, and sailed for Boston on the 22nd. They arrived in Boston Sept. 1st, and home the 6th. Messrs. C. F. Smith and L. B. Renfrew met them and brought them home from Boston.

Private Riley died Aug. 15th of yellow fever. This left 1st Sergt. O'Brien and Private Duprea who were too ill to come on the "Bay State." Again James Kershaw stayed and cared for Duprea, Sergt. O'Brien being at another hospital. Sept. 1st the sergeant was able to come, and a few days later Duprea and Kershaw. Arriving at Montauk Sergt. O'Brien made search for the Company, only to find they were all away on sixty days furlough. He yet being very weak decided to go to Boston and to a hospital there, where he stayed until about the middle of October. When Duprea and Kershaw reached Montauk Dr. H. B. Holmes was there to meet them. Duprea, being in very bad shape, was taken to a hospital in New York and Kershaw came home.

Meanwhile the men at home were having their ups and downs. Quarter-master Sergt. Hodecker, who had kept up about all of the time in Cuba and was thought to be in fair shape, when he reached home was taken down with typhoid fever and had a hard run of it. Private Tobin was another very sick man. For a long time Sergt. Milliman was very sick, during most of his furlough. Corp. Sime was another who had a close call. In North Adams Gelinas, Graham, Prentice, Harry Brown and Carroll Brown were in bad shape at their homes, and Marshall was at the hospital, while Page, Rougeau and Wood were not having as much fun as they expected. Vadnais was up and down but he kept on the move most of the time.

After Sergt. Campbell got home he had a very hard time of it, as did Corp. Hathaway. When Hathaway enlisted he

weighed two hundred and forty pounds, but was now reduced to one hundred and forty. The clothes he had before he went away did not fit him very well after his return.

Matters went along in this manner until about the 20th of October when orders were received for a ten day tour of duty in the Armory, previous to being mustered out. The work on the muster out rolls had been under way for some time previous. The order was promulgated to members of the Company and the tour began Oct. 24th, at seven-thirty a. m. The men were supposed to sleep in the Armory, but the captain thought it unsafe for them in the condition they were at that time, so arrangements were made for the out of town men to sleep at the homes of some of the soldiers, and those in Adams and North Adams could sleep at home. Their meals were furnished by the government at the Greylock House. Major Deering, 1st heavy artillery, was the examining surgeon. When he was here the following men had to be seen at their homes: Serjts. Hodecker, Smith and King, Corp. Sime, Privates Austin and Hiser in Adams, Gelinas, Graham and Carroll Brown at North Adams.

Nov. 3d, 1898, saw the last chapter rounded out. The Company left for Springfield to be mustered out. Just six months before they had taken the same train to be mustered in. Arriving at the city the regiment was formed and marched to the Armory on Howard street, passing in review before his Excellency, Roger Wolcott, in Court square. Thus, he had seen the regiment leave Framingham for the front and the return to their civil duties.

Duprea staid in the hospital until about the first of January. He was in a very critical condition. It was doubtful for some time if he would ever get to Adams. While in the hospital Miss Helen Gould interested herself in his behalf. She procured many things for his comfort, and as soon as he

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was able to be moved she had him taken to her summer home at Tarrytown. There, with several other soldiers, he had a very pleasant and beneficial time and recuperated rapidly. She visited them almost daily and joined them in what outdoor sports they were able to indulge in. He returned to Adams Jan. 6th, 1899, on account of illness of his mother.

Fred J. Sisco, who was in as good shape as any man in the Company when they returned, at once left for his old home in Vermont, but had been there but a short time before malaria got the best of him and where he had intended to remain but a few days he was obliged to stay until the Saturday before the muster out of the Company.

William J. Maloney, the South Boston member of the Company, as soon as he was able, visited his people in Easthampton. While there he was taken sick and though he came on for the muster out he would have been much better in bed.

Owing to the fact that some of the companies had not completed their rolls the regiment did not receive their pay until the middle of November. This was done at the Armories and necessitated the calling of the companies together again for that purpose. As the men had no idea when the paymaster would put in an appearance they left orders for their pay with the captain and returned to their homes. As orders had always been accepted before it was supposed that the same rule would prevail at this time. What had been done before did not have any weight now.

The paymaster said he must have the signature of each man before they could receive their money.

There were several of the men who had left the state and could not be reached in time, so no money for them could be had.

In about two weeks the captain was informed that if he had the orders for the pay of the men who were unable to be

there when the paymaster made his visit the money would be sent and the captain's receipt would be accepted. Thus, after a wait of about four weeks the men got their money, excepting in the case of Duprea and Sisco. They, not having signed the original muster out roll, could not get their money until the department in Washington had passed upon it.

The captain was not as fortunate as the men. When the Company landed in Cuba they had with them all of their paraphernalia, making a load for each man of about seventy pounds. With the thermometer ranging from 115 to 125 it is no wonder that the men got rid of everything possible. After the second day's march there was but one knapsack in the entire Company.

The 1st sergeant had hung on to his and did through the entire campaign and had many remarks thrown his way in consequence.

All of those things had been charged to the captain and a strict account of what became of them had to be rendered. As the campaign progressed other things such as rifles, ammunition, canteens, haversacks and straps, meat cans, knives, forks, spoons and drinking cups became noticeable by their absence. Quite a few were lost in action. More at the various hospitals and in transportation. Some of the articles were condemned by a board of survey appointed for that purpose. Before the regiment had left Santiago orders were issued that all ammunition should be buried.

When an inventory of the articles in question had been completed it was found the captain had the nice little sum of six hundred and sixty-nine dollars and five cents on the wrong side of the ledger. In this respect he was no worse off than other captains.

All there was to do was to take up each line and to specify where each and every article had been lost or des-



ARTHUR L. CAREY



FRED MERCIER



JAMES KERSHAW
CIVILIAN



ROBERT GROVES



HARRY C. BROWN



LYLE B. PARKER



LEVI GRAVEL



MILTON C. SNELL



FRANK W. MANNING



troyed. When this was completed it made quite a document, but as it was satisfactory to the government it brought about the desired effect, so that about the first of February, 1899, he was able to balance the account and get his pay.

The dark side of the picture has been shown. Up to the time of the surrender there had been many pleasant features. First, the quartette that was formed at Camp Dewey, furnished many a pleasant hour, not alone for our Company but the entire regiment. At Lakeland they were invited to other organizations as also to a large hall that the good people of Lakeland had fitted up for a reading room.

At Ybor City they were quite popular. It was while in this camp that the quartette was broken up for a few days, Corporal Whipple and Private Brown being detailed to go to Port Tampa to look after the ammunition. They got together again on the "Manteo" and whenever the old boat would stay the right way up they were in evidence.

All the way along jokes were played upon one another and a feeling of good fellowship permeated the camp.

When stops of any length were made the boys had their fun cut out. There was no element in the Company that wanted to injure any one, but rather to help all enjoy themselves.

There were many things happened after the men began to get sick that under any other circumstances would have provoked roars of laughter. At the time it would not raise even a smile, but more likely a growl. Men, who had never been known to lose their sense of humor could not see pleasure in anything. Just as soon as they could begin to see the funny side of things just so soon were they on the way to recovery. There were several incidents as we look back that were enough to make a horse laugh. One in particular. One of the men, who had a peculiar liking to be alone, during one

of the showers his shelter blew down. Thinking to avoid all future happenings of that sort he made up a shack in the trenches. He put down a couple of boards, got some grass for a bed, spread his blanket over that to lie on. Then to keep off the rain and dew he put some small poles across the trench and laid his poncho over them. The first night in his palatial home while sleeping the sleep of the innocent some belated traveler, taking the cover of his house for a bridge, proceeded to walk across. Then and there was a mixup. It has never been fully decided who had the best of the argument. The English language would not express the disgust of either party. The one, for having his sleep so rudely intruded upon, the other, because what he had taken for an easy way to cross the trench had proved to be a pitfall.

Another, not in our Company, but so close to us that we had the full benefit of the conversation.

One of the enlisted men had overstepped the rules of camp and wandered into the city. There he had indulged in a little too much Spanish tanglefoot. To make his peace with the captain he thought he must take back some article of value. The only thing to his mind equal to the occasion was the head of a sewing machine. This he lugged along, and when camp was reached and the man placed in arrest he brought his eloquence to bear upon the captain, setting forth in glowing terms the great benefit to the company by having such an addition to their limited stores.

One incident on the "Mobile" illustrates how quick a person's appetite will change when some one else does the cooking. One who had been unable to eat anything but what he could get in the shape of canned fruits and bread, the first night on the "Mobile" had procured, in what way is only known to himself, not a plate but a platter of food. There was a piece or rather chunk of beef that would have weighed

two and a half pounds at least, five large potatoes, and one half of a large loaf of bread. He got away with the whole lot and the peculiar part of it is he is alive yet.

On the "Manteo" going out the old tub was pitching and rolling something fierce. The men were holding on to anything that they could get hold of. Captain Smith, a big, fat Dutchman, was on the bridge walking back and forth. One of the boys remarked that if the fat captain would stand still it would stop the boat from rolling. The "Manteo" was the apple of the captain's eye. He could not brook anything that reflected on his boat. He at once proceeded to read the riot act to that fellow. He said the only thing he was good for was to dress up nice and parade the village street for the girls to look at. That he had rather have one thousand Spaniards on his boat than one American.

While in the trenches one of the men had put some poles across and laid his poncho over to keep the rain off. He had placed the sticks a little too far apart so that when the shower did come the blanket began to sag. He had placed some stones on the corners to hold it in place. As there did not seem to be much business doing he got out his pipe, filled and lit it, and was having a fine smoke. The more it rained the more the blanket settled in the center.

Pretty soon the corners pulled out from under the stones and about two pails of water came down in a lump on his head. He got up, shook himself and said: "That put my pipe out." The loss of the smoke was worse than the wetting.

Just a word in closing. The claim is not made that Company M was the best company in the regiment. No regiment can be a good one unless the twelve companies are good. That the regiment was a good one is known to all. This can and should be said—The Company accepted what they got and made the most of it.





Colonel E.P. Clark.



Major Whipple.



MAJOR REUBEN A. WHIPPLE.

One Civil war veteran from Adams served in the 2nd Massachusetts and represented the town admirably at headquarters. Perhaps no one man in the regiment was more popular with both officers and men than was Major Reuben A. Whipple, and though our regiment claimed three majors, the one always spoken of as "the major" was the veteran from Adams.

In camp and in the field he was ever watchful of the men in his battalion and made himself popular because of his genial nature. Unlike most men of his rank he was not above making friends with the privates, and he mingled with them in such a way as to win their respect without losing the esteem of the other officers.

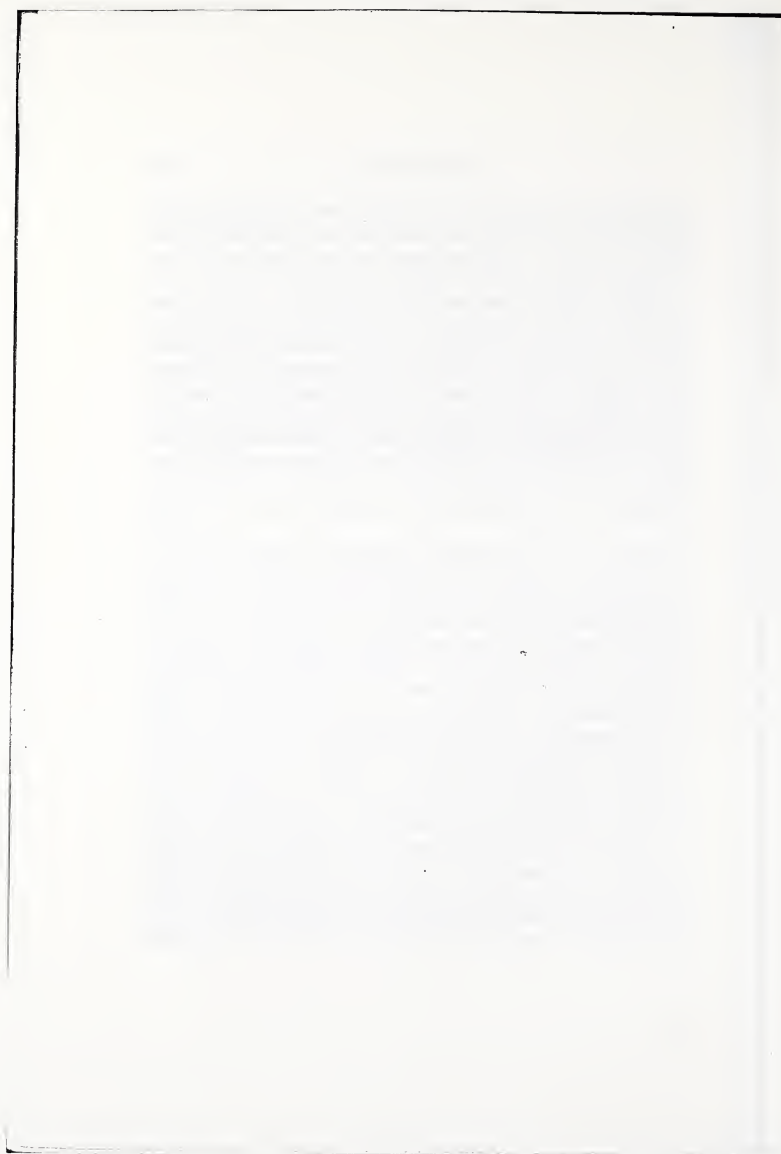
Reuben Arnold Whipple was born at Smithfield, Rhode Island, August 11, 1846, but since he came to Adams in 1852 he has always known this town as his home. His parents and grandparents had lived in a military atmosphere and were known for their military service. His grandfather held a

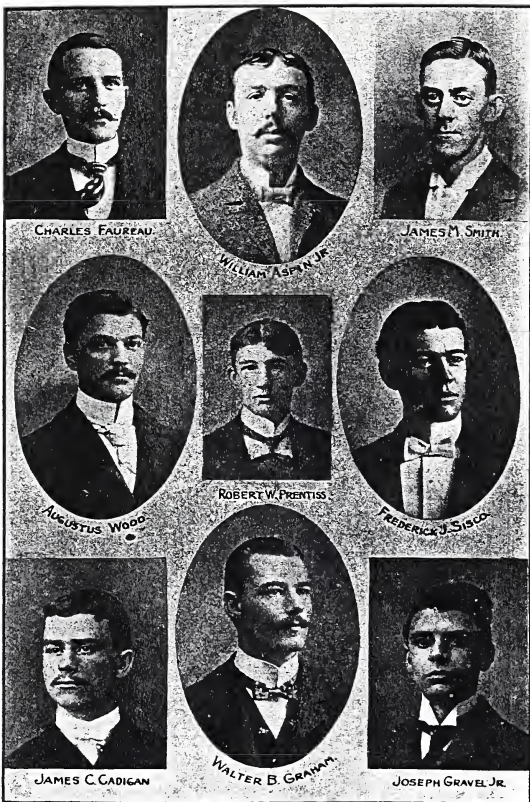
commission in the Revolutionary war and served with great credit. Having been brought up on stories of the battlefield, Whipple was only too glad that he was able to take an active part in the Civil war. In 1864, at the age of 18, he enlisted as a private in the United States service and was mustered into Company B of the 8th Massachusetts infantry, which belonged to the 3rd separate brigade of the 8th corps. He served faithfully until the close of the rebellion and then returned to Adams where he went into the lime business. In 1887 a military company was organized in town and Reuben A. Whipple became the first captain of Company M, 2nd Massachusetts infantry, which was destined to win so much fame for itself, and which was later the first volunteer company in the United States to leave its Armory for the Spanish war.

Captain Whipple did most excellent service in the State Militia and built a high standard for Company M. He was an excellent marksman and for a number of years was leader of the rifle team on which he won the buttons of a distinguished marksman. For eight years he remained in Company M, but in 1894 he was appointed major of the 2nd battalion and Company M thus lost one of the best captains in the volunteer militia. In his new position the major served faithfully until 1898 when he was commissioned major of volunteers in the same regiment. Throughout the Cuban campaign he was a brave and fearless leader, and during the siege of Santiago had command of the regiment. His excellent services became known in army circles and when the Spanish war was over and the regiment had returned home, the major was called to Washington and given a commission as captain in the new 26th United States volunteer infantry under Colonel Rice. Major Whipple was the first volunteer captain to be chosen of the ten new regiments being formed. While the

new 26th was being assembled at Plattsburg, New York, Captain Whipple was made recruiting officer for this district and after his return to his regiment he was appointed to the colonel's staff as regimental quartermaster.

Major Whipple was married in November, 1871, to Miss Evaline M. Todd, and their oldest son, George, entered the volunteer service with his father. He served first as drummer boy and in the Cuban campaign was a corporal in his father's old company. After the surrender of Santiago he was taken ill and died in the division hospital at Santiago, Aug. 12. The accompanying cut of the major was taken directly after his return from Cuba and is considered to be an excellent likeness.





CHARLES FAUREAU

WILLIAM ASPEN JR.

JAMES M. SMITH

AUGUSTUS WOOD

ROBERT W. PRENTISS

FREDERICK J. SISCO

JAMES C. CADIGAN

WALTER B. GRAHAM

JOSEPH GRAVEL JR.



THE LADIES' AUXILIARY.

No sooner had the boys of Company M left town for South Framingham than the ladies of Adams gathered together and decided to do their share in supporting the men at the front.

A meeting was held early in May and a society to be known as The Ladies' Auxiliary was organized, with Irene R. Whipple as president, Maud A. Waters as secretary and May C. Ainslie as treasurer. Besides these officers an executive committee made up of Mrs. Peter P. Smith, Jennie D. Crowell and Rena M. Bowen was appointed.

The object of the society was to aid the members of Company M at the front and to do good at home comforting the families of the boys in many little ways.

The society grew rapidly in members and besides the regular members a great many honorary members were added who helped the girls out financially. Besides the regular dues several collections of money were made and the society was quite successful in finding contributors. By the time Com-

pany M had reached Lakeland the girls were ready to send on the first results of their labor, and one day a great box and barrel were unloaded in the camp at Lakeland. How the boys did praise and cheer the girls when those boxes were opened, for in them was found something for every one in the Company. There was a "comfort bag" containing thread, needles, pins, buttons, courtplaster, cotton and even gum, while in some were little cheering notes from particular friends. Many a smile went around when the cotton was found, but later it proved more than convenient in lighting camp fires at Santiago. Besides hundreds of other little things in those boxes were bundles of books, magazines and papers, so Captain Hicks kindly turned over his tent to be used as a library, and after the reading matter was sorted and a librarian appointed we were the proudest men in the regiment.

All through the campaign we felt the result of the society's efforts, and even after the Company returned home the girls' good work still went on, and there is not a man in the old Company but who has reason to bless the girls of Adams for their loyalty in forming the "Ladies Auxiliary," and so nobly working for the boys at the front.

It was not alone the ladies of Adams that had the welfare of the Company at heart. Several young ladies in North Adams took it upon themselves to do what they could. They collected quite an amount of money, if we could judge by the amount of good things that found their way into soldiers' homes after, yes, and before the boys got home. Milk, eggs, chickens, fruit were left at the different houses.

A delegation from this band of young ladies visited the soldiers at their homes to see if anything more could be done.

Perhaps no two ladies did more than Miss Barry, who had a brother in the Company, and Mrs. Crawford. The money

that they raised paid for teams to give the boys an outing. It purchased gloves when the weather was getting a little cool. In this no one was forgotten. They also gave the entire Company after the muster out a banquet.

The tables were very prettily arranged and trimmed. No matter how good a caterer you have there is no one that can make the tables look quite so nice as the ladies.

There was an abundance of good things to eat, in fact, three times as much as could be eaten. During the evening music was furnished by an orchestra from North Adams. Some of the prominent men in town had a few words to say. Stories were told, songs sung and everything that could be was done for the enjoyment of the men.



VOLUNTEER AID ASSOCIATION.

The citizens of Adams realized that with the departure of Company M a new field was opened for those left at home, so a number of business men and ex-member of Company M held a meeting in the Armory and formed an association to be known as the Company M Volunteer Aid association. Officers were chosen with Arthur A. Hall as president, and Will B. Orr as secretary and treasurer. E. A. Cadagon, H. A. Jones and L. B. Renfrew were elected vice-presidents, who also made up the executive committee. Similar associations were formed in Pittsfield, North Adams and Dalton and all worked successfully together. The good deeds performed by these associations will never be forgotten by the men of Company M or by their families. Everything that could be done to make life more pleasant for the soldiers was done, and edible and smokable luxuries were continually finding their way into camp. Even after Cuba was reached the first mails brought packages of useful things to the men, and we were constantly reminded that we were remembered at home. Not only were

the boys cared for, but so were their families. Committees went around to their homes and saw that parents or children wanted for nothing. But it was after Santiago had surrendered and after our boys reached Montauk Point that the association really did the most good. Physicians from Adams went to Montauk to look after Company M. Great boxes of provisions and clothing were sent. Woven-wire cots appeared in the Company tents and regimental hospitals, all due to the labors of the association. As soon as furloughs were received and the men began to arrive home carriages and physicians were present at every train, while the returned veteran was carried to his home and there nursed and guarded until strength was brought back to him.

One might write volumes on the good deeds of this association, but there are other people who also looked after the welfare of the Company.

Benefit concerts were held by different societies and the money turned over to the Company, while often the proceeds from base ball games went to the treasurer of the Aid association.

The Renfrew Manufacturing company and the Berkshire Manufacturing company insured each of their employes in Company M for one thousand dollars and turned the policies over to their families. They also kept their positions open for them, and as soon as they were able to return to work were welcomed and given their places. These companies also refused to accept rent from the families of the Company M boys who lived in company houses, and we know of cases where money was given to the families by these corporations.

Upon our return the Hoosac Valley Street Railway company presented each member of the Company with a pass

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good on all of their lines until Oct. 1st, and every day saw men regaining health by riding through the fields on those cars. The Robert Emmet society presented each man with a season ticket to their fair. The Agricultural societies of North Adams and Pittsfield sent tickets for their fairs to all members of Company M. In fact, a 2nd Massachusetts uniform was good anywhere and a man wearing one was treated with the best of hospitality wherever he went.

Besides the numerous societies which aided the members of Company M the kindness of the following citizens will never be forgotten;

W. Murray Crane, Dalton,
W. B. Plunkett, Adams,
J. C. Chalmers, Adams,
C. F. Smith, Adams,
A. K. Boom, M. D., Adams,
H. B. Holmes, M. D., Adams,
A. B. Mole, Adams,
W. S. Jenks, Adams,
E. A. Cadigon, Adams,
A. H. Simmons, Adams,
W. B. Orr, Adams,
L. B. Renfrew, Adams,
Edward Riley, Adams,
John E. Mole, Adams,
C. T. Plunkett, Adams,
C. A. Waters, Adams,
James Renfrew, Adams,
F. E. Mole, Adams.

Numerous others might be mentioned, for there was not a person in town who did not do everything in his power to welcome back the members of Company M.



HARRY PARTRIDGE



SAMUEL HISER



GEORGE NAGAR



WILLIAM MALONEY



EDWARD MOONEY



LOUIS ROUGEAU



HARRY MARSHALL



HERBERT WARD



WALLA PARADISE

PROVISIONAL COMPANY.

There was a lonesome look in the Park street Armory after Company M had left town, and for a number of days no one entered the rooms except the janitor and a few visitors. But in the latter part of May there was a re-action and once more the rooms were crowded with men and the halls rang with the sound of military steps. The Legislature had created a provisional militia and Adams was to have its company to replace that of the 2nd Massachusetts. When the call was sent out for volunteers hundreds responded, and among them were many ex-members of Company M, and men who had been rejected at South Framingham. In a short time the required number of men were enrolled and officers were elected by the company. Drills were held often and much interest was taken. The men underwent physical examinations and on July 31, 1898, were mustered into the state service by Colonel Richardson of North Adams, where they served until in accordance with the special act that created it,

the Provisional militia was disbanded April 15, 1899, immediately after the treaty of peace was signed.

The roster of the 29th company follows: Captain, Arthur A. Hall; 1st lieutenant, Fred E. Busby; 2nd lieutenant, Frank E. McNulty. Non-commissioned officers had never been appointed but the following men made up the rest of the company: Gustave Schaelzel, James Martin, Harry E. Haff, Frank A. O'Brien, Aaron Turner, Manfred Lothrop, Jr., Delmar Perkins, Eugene Delancy, Walter D. Sheldon, John W. Moran, Leon E. Howland, William H. Lewis, John L. Nimmons, Homer Getty, Benjamin Gennette, George A. Mole. Frances O'Neill, James Smith, Charles Wells, Fred Hamburg, Henry St. John, William Thompson, James B. Clancy, John E. Tosh, Charles F. Bates, Paul A. Lewis, John Laughlin, Frank Zuknetzer, Anson Carpenter, Charles Duggan, Fred H. Boisvert, Frank I. Wilder, Anton S. Werner, Napoleon Young, Robert F. Finn, Walter W. Potter, Arthur E. Haff, Walter W. Davis, Frank L. Morse.

IN MEMORIAM.

ROLL OF HONOR.

*"To fight in Freedom's cause
Is something gained
And nothing lost to fall."*

DAVID C. FERGUSON,
Died at Division hospital, El Paso, July 19, 1898.

JOSEPH GRAVEL, JR.,
Died at Division hospital, El Paso, July 21, 1898.

JAMES M. SMITH,
Died at Regimental hospital, Santiago, Aug. 3, 1898.

ALFRED A. THIEL, Wagoner,
Died at home, Adams, Aug. 4, 1898.

RICHARD W. BRUCE,
Died at Regimental hospital, Santiago, Aug. 10, 1898.

COMPANY M.

WILLIAM H. CROCKWELL,

Died at Regimental hospital, Santiago, Aug. 11, 1898.

GEORGE E. WHIPPLE, Corporal,

Died at Division hospital, Santiago, Aug. 12, 1898.

BENJAMIN RILEY,

Died at Regimental hospital, Santiago, Aug. 15, 1898.

FRANKLIN W. MANNING,

Died on board transport Mobile, buried at sea, Aug. 17, 1898.

GEORGE W. ALDERMAN, Artificer,

Died at Montauk Point hospital, Aug. 20, 1898.

WILLIAM H. DUGGAN, Musician,

Died at Montauk Point hospital, Aug. 24, 1898.

JOHN B. STURM, Corporal,

Died at North Adams hospital, Sept. 4, 1898.

RECEIVED AT THE REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

CAPTAIN HERBERT O. HICKS.

Throughout the whole campaign of the Fifth Army corps in Cuba none but words of praise were heard for the officers of the 2nd Massachusetts and especially of Company M. Men who had lived side by side with the members of the Company led them through that terrible campaign and came back to their homes and friends with bodies unscathed and characters unspotted.

The man nearest to the hearts of the boys at the front and foremost in the thoughts of the citizens at home was Captain Herbert O. Hicks. It is known throughout the military circles of the state that Company M, the color company of the regiment, had a leader who loved his men as if they were his own sons. With such a commander is it strange that Company M was considered and generally acknowledged to be the best in the regiment?

In 1895, after the resignation of Captain Jones, Lieutenant Hicks was unanimously elected captain, and from that time on a change was noticed in the attention to duty by the men.

They were influenced by their captain's study and devotion to duty, and he taught them to look more seriously at the State militia and to drill with a purpose in view. The Company prospered and steadily grew under his guidance. The standard of marksmanship of former years was equalled, and even surpassed, while every other company in the regiment envied the rifle team of Company M, which won clean victories over all other teams for seven consecutive years, and whose Armory walls are lined with trophies won from companies and rifle teams from all parts of the state. No other company was better versed in military tactics, guard manual and "war talk" than Company M, and no officer could maintain better discipline or secure more respect than Captain Hicks.

As a result of the captain's devotion to duty the declaration of war with Spain found every man prepared for just such an emergency as confronted him. Every man wanted to go with Captain Hicks and parents gladly gave their consent when they learned that he was to lead the men.

In camp the captain was even more devoted to the men than at home. Everything that could be done was done for them. At Lakeland he gave up his entire tent to be used as a library, and at another time he went so far as to give up his private cot to a sick soldier. At Ybor City, long before aid societies were heard of he furnished ice for the drinking water, and whatever delicacies were obtainable he bought for the boys.

At the front he was one of the bravest of leaders and though circumstances and "black powder" kept the regiment from showing up at its best, the officers of Company M were at the front where the "Mausers" were whistling and the "Springfields" were speaking.

After Santiago had fallen and the men were coming down with fever and disease no man was more watchful of his boys

than was the captain, and more than one member of Company M, though he may not fully realize it, has his life today because of the devotion of that officer.

The people at home, after death had visited the Company, knew what a true friend they had at the front and the consoling letters to parents, after their sons had been taken from them, often helped to dry the tears and seemingly lighten the sorrows.

When Adams received her returned soldiers and all were being cared for, Captain Hicks still made his regular tours to see that his men lacked nothing for comfort, though he himself was greatly overworked.

Herbert O. Hicks was born at Readsboro, Vermont, July 4, 1851. He came to Adams in 1870 and has since lived here. For nine years he was in the office of H. N. Dean & Son, and later was with Smith, Mole & Co. When the war broke out he was with the Renfrew Manufacturing company, and though his services could hardly be spared he at once offered himself to his country.

On Jan. 16, 1888, he joined Company M, which was then a new organization, and although he had had but a little previous military training he was appointed sergeant. In 1888 he became a member of the rifle team and remained with it for nine years as first class marksman, sharpshooter and distinguished marksman. Because of his popularity and soldierly abilities he was made 2nd lieutenant, and later promoted to 1st lieutenant. July 3, 1895, he was elected captain of the Company and after its return from Cuba he tendered his resignation, which was regretfully accepted Jan. 7, 1899.

F. A. S.

FIRST LIEUT. GEORGE J. CROSIER.

Born in Hebron, N. Y., May 1st, 1875. Came to Adams, with parents, in 1882. Attended public schools, from which he graduated with honor in June, 1893.

Enlisted in Company M in May, 1893. Served as private, corporal and sergeant. December, 1897, elected 1st lieutenant vice George Simmons resigned.

Was substitute on rifle team in 1896. A member of 1897 team.

After graduating he was employed by the Berkshire Cotton Manufacturing company in their office. This position he held until their good opinion of him made it convenient to go into the mill and learn the business.

His aptness for that work soon brought promotion until the Company was ordered to Cuba. At that time he was second in the carding department. During the Cuban campaign he was detailed to various positions, all of which he filled to the entire satisfaction of his superior officers. He

was at the front in every battle and skirmish and inspired the men by his coolness and courage.

When at Montauk Point the captain was obliged to go to the hospital the command of the Company was turned over to him. The business of turning over the equipments, a very particular job at best but at this time owing to loss in action, transportation and at the hospitals made it next to impossible, yet it was done to the entire satisfaction of all. At the reorganization of the Company he was elected captain. And should he care to make the military his life-work his future would be a brilliant one.

SECOND LIEUT. E. J. LAFERRIERE.

In its 2nd lieutenant Company M was fortunate in having a man who had been with the Company since its earliest days, and one who had its every interest at heart.

Ernest J. Laferriere was born in Canada on the 21st of May, 1856. He came to Adams in 1883 and went into the boot and shoe business and later into the wall paper and painting business. He was one of the first men to join Company M when it was organized here, in 1887, and remained with the Company ever since. Because of his faithful work and excellent service he was appointed corporal, later sergeant, and after another promotion became 1st sergeant. From the earliest days of the rifle team he was an ardent supporter of it and because of his excellent marksmanship remained on the team for eight consecutive years and won the title of sharpshooter.

In 1896 he was commissioned 2nd lieutenant and has held that position since. In 1898, when the Second regiment went into the United States service, he was commissioned 2nd lieu-

tenant of volunteers, and most faithfully supported his commission throughout the campaign in Cuba. Upon his return home he accepted a position with the Berkshire Manufacturing company, though he still continues to remain an officer in his beloved Company.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

About the middle of September some of the citizens began to talk about some fitting service for those who had lost their lives in the Spanish-American war.

A meeting was called at the Congregation House at which the pastors of the different churches and quite a few of the townspeople were present.

The matter was thoroughly gone over. Different committees were appointed. It was thought that the Armory would be the most suitable place to hold the exercises. An effort was made to get Rev. Father Fitzgerald, chaplain of the 22nd infantry to deliver the address, but his leave of absence had expired and he had rejoined his regiment at Fort Crook, Neb. Congressman George P. Lawrence was invited and accepted. As the time drew near for the service Company M was ordered into the Armory for a ten-day tour of duty. This made it impossible to hold the meeting there, so another meeting was

held, at which it was decided that the Baptist church was the best place for the meeting.

The exercises were held Saturday, Oct. 29, and were largely attended. Captain Hicks presided. Hon. George P. Lawrence delivered a very appropriate and touching address. Rev. Mr. Carr, Rev. Mr. Darling, Rev. Mr. Penniman and Rev. Mr. Foskett followed with touching tributes to the dead as well as to the living.

The music was by a trained chorus of fifty voices under the leadership of Rev. Mr. Fisher. The different selections had been procured especially for the Union Memorial service and were very feelingly rendered.

There was a large attendance from surrounding towns, North Adams, Pittsfield, Dalton, Cheshire and Savoy. G. A. R. Posts from North Adams, Pittsfield and Dalton, and S. of V. Camps from North Adams and Pittsfield. Following is a program of the services:

Choir—"Battle Hymn of the Republic,"

Congregation joining in the chorus.

Prayer by Rev. A. B. Penniman.

Choir—"The Souls of the Righteous,"

Woodward

Introductory Remarks,

Capt. H. O. Hicks.

Address,

Congressman George P. Lawrence, North Adams.

Male Quartette—"Silently, Tenderly, Mournfully Home,"

Barker

Mr. Thomas Carne, Rev. M. B. Fisher,
Mr. Frank L. Goodnow, Mr. E. M. Meekins.

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Address,

Rev. W. W. Carr.

Choir—"The Silent Army,"

Macy

Address,

Rev. O. I. Darling.

Male Quartette—"Tenting on the Old Camp Ground,"

Kittredge

Address,

Rev. A. B. Penniman.

Address,

Rev. H. B. Foskett.

Congregation—"The National Anthem."

Benediction.

REMAINS BROUGHT BACK.

Early in February Major Whipple and 1st Sergt. O'Brien joined the Massachusetts delegation in New York for the purpose of going back to Cuba to get the bodies of the men who had given up their lives for humanity's sake.

They took passage on the transport "Crook" and after an uneventful voyage arrived at Porto Rico, it having been decided to get the bodies there first. After a few days there they boarded the "Obdan" and returned to Santiago, when the work of disentering the bodies began. They visited some of the old camps and the battlefields and found things very much in the shape they had been left, particularly at the last camp we occupied in front of Santiago. They procured many souvenirs and pictures, some of them of great interest to the men who had seen the place only in time of trouble.

After the work of the trip had been accomplished, every body found and fully identified, the homeward journey was begun. The transport arrived in New York March 30th and the work of unloading and shipping the bodies to their des-

tinations was at once started. The four to come to Adams arrived at 2.19 p. m., Friday, March 31st. They were at once taken to the Armory where they were placed under a guard of honor until the time of burial. The caskets were draped with American flags and covered with flowers.

A great number of people visited the Armory Friday night and Saturday morning. The funeral service was held Saturday at 2 o'clock p. m., attended by a vast concourse of people. Corporal George E. Whipple, Privates Joseph Gravel and David C. Ferguson were interred in Maple street cemetery and Private William H. Crockwell in Bellevue, Company M furnishing the escort and observing the usual military honors.

Privates James M. Smith and Benjamin Riley were sent to Fall River and Richard W. Bruce to Pontiac, R. I., at each of which places funeral services were held, attended by military delegations from those and surrounding towns.

Thus closes the chapter opened May 3d, 1898, and which has been so full of events to the Company, the town and county.

ADAMS IN THE PHILIPINES.

Although the town of Adams furnished more men, in proportion to its population, than any other town in Massachusetts, and though everyone knew how much Company M had suffered in Cuba, and how badly the boys looked when they returned home, there was not a single word against the government when a new call for volunteers to serve in the Philippines was made. There were plenty of men ready to serve and who wanted to serve, so when a recruiting office was opened in town there were men enough on hand to keep the examining surgeon busy.

Adams was honored in being represented on the staff of the new 26th regiment by Major R. A. Whipple, who was commissioned captain and who had charge of the recruiting station here. During the two weeks that the office remained open a number of men enlisted but a still greater number was rejected by the physicians. The old Company M sent her share of men and sent men, too, who had had experience and knew what was before them. The provisional company fur-

nished several men, while others went from civil life and without previous military training.

Besides being represented in the new volunteer regiment, Adams has Edward F. O'Brien at the front, in the 22nd United States infantry, and Thomas O'Neil with Dewey on the flag ship "Olympia."

Among the men who went into the new 26th, which will soon be in the Philippines, are: Captain Reuben A. Whipple, Quartermaster Sergeant Will S. Adams, Sergeant Harry A. Partridge, Privates Wilfred C. Morgan, Charles Daniels, John Hamburg, Fred Hamburg, Walter Bruffie, Fred Aspin, Joseph LeRiche, John O'Neil, George B. Saunders, James B. Clancy, Alfred Furhart, Homer L. Getty, John Reardon.

HORACE HOLMES AINSLIE.

Horace Holmes Ainslie enlisted June 25, 1898, in the United States Hospital corps, and was assigned duty at the army hospital at Fort McPherson, Atlanta, Ga. While caring for returned soldiers he was taken ill with typhoid fever, so was furloughed for sixty days. He returned to Adams and after his recovery was mustered out of service on Nov. 8, 1898.

HERBERT CANN.

Herbert Cann enlisted in Company I of the Fifth Massachusetts Volunteer infantry at Attleboro and was mustered into the United States service at South Framingham July 1, 1898. The regiment moved to Pennsylvania in September and went into camp there. In November they went into winter quarters at Camp Wetherill, Greenville, South Carolina, and were assigned to 2nd brigade, 2d division, 2d Army

corps. The regiment was mustered out of the service March 29, 1899, and the men returned home.

JAMES E. KERSHAW.

James E. Kershaw left Adams for South Framingham in May as a private in Company M. The surgeons at Camp Dewey rejected him because of poor eyesight, but he secured a position as servant for the officers and went to the front with Company M, where he suffered every privation with the Company. In Cuba he did most valuable service as nurse and after the regiment was ordered to Montauk, he cheerfully volunteered to remain at Santiago and care for the sick of Company M.

Though Kershaw's name may not be found on any army roster he is worthy of as much credit as any man who has an honorable discharge from the United States service.

EDWARD F. O'BRIEN.

At the call for volunteers Edward F. O'Brien enlisted in M Company of the 14th New York infantry commanded by Col. Fred C. Grant. He served faithfully as corporal with this regiment until he was mustered out at the close of the Spanish war.

Shortly after his muster out he re-enlisted in the regular army and was assigned to the gallant 22nd infantry, commanded by Col. Egbert, who was later killed during a charge at Malolas. In January the 22nd left Fort Crook, Neb., and landed in Manila about March 5th. Since that time the regiment has been in active service continually and O'Brien has been present at all engagements.

DAVID C. FERGUSON GARRISON.

At the first annual re-union of Company M, Second Massachusetts Infantry, United States Volunteers, held on July 1st, 1899, at Mason Inn, Savoy, Mass., it was voted to form an organization by means of which the Adams veterans of the Spanish-American war could be held together. A committee was appointed to consider the matter and to report at a meeting to be held early in August.

Tuesday evening, August 1st, the members of Company M met at Armory hall and the committee advised forming a local garrison of the Army and Navy Union. The members acted upon the advice of the committee and decided to organize as the David C. Ferguson Garrison of the Army and Navy Union, in honor of David C. Ferguson, who was the first member of Company M to die in the Cuban campaign.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Commander, Capt. H. O. Hicks.

Senior Vice-Commander, Lieut. George J. Crosier.

Junior Vice-Commander, 1st Sergt. William O'Brien.

Adjutant-Corporal, Fred A. Simmons.

Paymaster, Sergeant William Hodecker.

Quartermaster, Private Levi Gravel.

The roll book was left open and the following men became charter members of the new organization:

H. O. Hicks,
George J. Crosier,
Matthew F. McGlynn,
Fred A. Simmons,
John Weir,
William Hodecker,
Abraham Kershaw,
Levi Gravel,
Victor King,
Alfred N. Gelinas,
Jim R. Smith,
John S. Walsh,
William Aspin, Jr.,
Augustus Wood,
James C. Cadagon,
Robert W. Prentice,
James A. Campbell,
Walla Paradise,
David Sitcer,
Jesper Coones,
John L. Burt,
Bryan Dwyer,
Burdette H. Milliman,
Harry L. Marshall,
Sydney H. Cliffe,

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Edward F. Cassidy,
Charles W. Favreau,
Thomas Tobin, Jr.,
John Reardon,
William O'Brien,
Arthur A. Austin,
Charles E. Dunn,
Alfred N. Page,
Fred J. Sisco,
Fred Mercier,
Harry C. Browne,
Eugene E. Lee,
Amede Vadnais,
Milton Snell,
Harry Partridge,
Charles Daniels,
William Sime,
Samuel Hiser,
Charles Stone,
Robert Groves,
Louis Rougeau,
John Sullivan,
John Thompson.

MASSACHUSETTS IN CIVIL WAR.

	SERVICE	NO. MEN	DEATHS
1st Regiment,	3 years	1981	181
2d "	3 years	2761	272
3d "	3 months	447	0
4th "	3 months	635	1
5th "	3 months	829	10
6th "	3 months	747	4
7th "	3 years	1330	145
8th "	3 months	711	0
3d Battalion, Riflemen,	3 months	318	2
1st Battery,	3 months	118	1
13 Unattached Companies,	3 months	1250	2
5th Regiment,	3 months	943	7
6th "	3 months	971	7
8th "	100 days	913	6
9th "	3 years	1922	258
10th "	3 years	1499	173
11th "	3 years	2423	232

	SERVICE	NO. MEN	DEATHS
12th Regiment,	3 years	1758	254
13th "	3 years	1582	146
14th			
15th "	3 years	1975	337
16th "	3 years	1563	233
17th "	3 years	2299	153
18th "	3 years	1633	232
19th "	3 years	2469	264
20th "	3 years	3230	384
21st "	3 years	1619	214
22nd "	3 years	1858	284
23d "	3 years	1710	184
24th "	3 years	2116	210
25th "	3 years	1999	293
26th "	3 years	2101	237
27th "	3 years	2108	364
28th "	3 years	2504	364
29th "	3 years	1820	154
30th "	3 years	2064	371
31st "	3 years	1781	190
32d "	3 years	2969	277
33d "	3 years	1412	176
34th "	3 years	1448	253
35th "	3 years	1665	225
36th "	3 years	1416	249
37th "	3 years	1483	248
38th "	3 years	1191	223
39th "	3 years	1541	242
40th "	3 years	1167	192
42nd "	100 days	953	14
14th Unattached Companies,	1 year	1012	7
Boston Cadets,	3 months	116	0

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	SERVICE	NO. MEN	DEATHS
Salem Cadets,	5 months	130	1
Company B, 7th Regiment,	6 months	103	0
8th Battery,	6 months	163	7
3d Regiment,	9 months	1024	16
4th "	9 months	1002	139
5th "	9 months	984	13
6th "	9 months	938	27
8th "	9 months	984	9
42nd "	9 months	1044	44
43d "	9 months	1076	15
44th "	9 months	1047	36
45th "	9 months	1025	46
46th "	9 months	980	33
47th "	9 months	1158	34
48th "	9 months	1025	64
49th "	9 months	966	105
50th "	9 months	994	89
51st "	9 months	973	40
52nd "	9 months	955	98
53d "	9 months	973	163
11th Battery,	9 months	157	
1st "	3 years	319	20
2nd "	3 years	415	26
3d "	3 years	318	19
4th "	3 years	434	47
5th "	3 years	439	29
6th "	3 years	451	55
7th "	3 years	436	36
9th "	3 years	356	19
10th "	3 years	274	23
11th "	3 years	199	13
12th "	3 years	300	25

	SERVICE	NO. MEN	DEATHS
13th Regiment	3 years	355	26
14th " "	3 years	207	15
15th " "	3 years	416	26
16th " "	3 years	174	6
1st Heavy Artillery,	3 years	3439	464
2nd " "	3 years	3048	348
3d " "	3 years	2358	41
4th " "	1 year	1852	22
30th Company Artillery,	1 year	150	
1st Battalion " "	3 years	1486	15
1st Regimental Cavalry,	3 years	2767	216
2nd " "	3 years	2841	209
3d " "	3 years	2653	263
4th " "	3 years	2018	144
5th " "	3 years	1516	117
1st Battalion Artillery,	1 year	531	2
54th Regiment,	3 years	1574	208
55th " "	3 years	1295	184
56th " "	3 years	1319	213
57th " "	3 years	1549	249
58th " "	3 years	1100	259
59th " "	3 years	1054	137
61st " "	1 year	1013	22
62nd " "	1 year	411	2
1st Company Sharpshooter,	3 years	233	39
2nd " "	3 years	155	21
Veteran Reserve Corps,	6 months	3274	10
Enlistment in Regular Army,		2597	6
United States Colored Troops,		1954	
Enlistments in Other States,		434	

MASSACHUSETTS IN SPANISH WAR.

	SERVICE	NO. MEN	DEATHS
1st Regiment, H. A.,	7 months	749	
2nd "	6 months	943	98
5th "	9 months	1315	12
6th "	8 months	1327	26
8th "	11 months	1327	31
9th "	7 months	1327	123
10 U. S. V. Signal Corps,		68	
Massachusetts Naval Brigade,		414	
Enlistment U. S. Army,		2752	
Enlistment U. S. Navy,		1438	
Enlistment U. S. Marines,		400	
Enlistment U. S. Engineers,		165	

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